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SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

Chicago Tribune

Chicago area has 3 heavy polluters

Toxic chemicals dumped into waterways by refineries in Joliet, Lemont, Whiting

By Michael Hawthorne
Chicago Tribune

Oil refineries are dumping massive amounts of toxic chemicals and heavy metals into the Great Lakes and the nation's rivers with little, if any, oversight from government regulators, according

to a new analysis that found some of the worst polluters are in the Chicago area.

During 2021 alone 81 refineries in the United States that treat waste on-site released 1.6 billion pounds of chlorides, sulfates and other dissolved solids harmful to fish and other aquatic life, the

nonprofit Environmental Integrity Project determined in its review of federal data.

The refineries also collectively discharged 60,000 pounds of selenium, an element that can mutate fish, and 15.7 million pounds of nitrogen, which contributes to water-fouling algae blooms and dead zones in important fisheries such as the Great Lakes, Chesapeake Bay and the Gulf of Mexico.

Most of the refineries are in low-income, predominantly Black

and Latino communities that face disproportionate health risks from industrial pollution.

Some refinery pollution is legal because federal and state officials have failed to limit it, despite requirements in the 1972 Clean Water Act mandating a review of standards for various chemicals and metals at least every five years based on the latest science and improvements in water treatment technology.

"You have refineries that may

look like they are complying with the law, but the standards are decades old and really don't require very much," said Eric Schaeffer, the group's executive director and former chief of civil enforcement at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Three Chicago-area refineries — BP Whiting in Indiana, Exxon-Mobil Joliet and Citgo in Lemont — highlight the consequences of

Turn to Refineries, Page 8

ELECTION 2023 CHICAGO MAYOR



Top row from left: State Rep. Kambium "Kam" Buckner, U.S. Rep. Jesús "Chuy" García, Mayor Lori Lightfoot, Ald. Sophia King and Ald. Roderick Sawyer. Bottom row from left: Activist Ja'Mal Green, Cook County Commissioner Brandon Johnson, ex-Chicago Public Schools CEO Paul Vallas and businessman Willie Wilson. **ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/TRIBUNE**

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Nine people are on the 2023 ballot for mayor of Chicago. They include a multimillionaire businessman and a community activist, a congressman, two City Council members, a former schools chief, a state representative and a Cook County commissioner. Several have made previous runs at City Hall's top job. Many have sought to show their progressive bona fides, while others say they'd be tougher on crime — a dominant issue. **A look at the candidates in Chicagoland, Pages 10-11**

Fewer students, empty buildings, union battles

Mayoral field grapples with big challenges in Chicago Public Schools

By A.D. Quig, Alice Yin
and Gregory Pratt
Chicago Tribune

The auto shop in West Rogers Park resembled a classroom preparing for the first day of school when mayoral hopeful Brandon Johnson joined educators there recently to discuss the

future of Chicago schools.

Fresh pastries on a table welcomed the crowd, nearly all Chicago Teachers Union members, and the walls were adorned with long, bright scrolls of paper for a brainstorming activity. In a corner, children played on iPads and rode bikes.

Johnson, a longtime leader with the powerful union who won its endorsement and financial backing, used the gathering to hail CTU's work, while also referencing its battles with Mayor Lori Lightfoot and her predecessor, Rahm

Emanuel.

"We really wished that the people who were sworn to support and to represent the interests of working people, that they wouldn't have so much animus and disdain towards things as simple as a library, a librarian, social workers and counselors and housing that was affordable," Johnson said.

While Johnson casts the union's role as an underdog fighting for better schools, Lightfoot sees CTU's advocacy in starker terms, accusing the union of politicizing education, wielding undue

influence and playing a part in Chicago Public Schools' enrollment loss.

Conflict with the teachers union has been a hallmark of Lightfoot's term, starting with a bitter teachers strike months after she took office. Since then, she's repeatedly clashed with CTU over COVID-19 restrictions, spending priorities and an elected school board, which she supported as a candidate, then balked at.

In a vivid display of the deeply held

Turn to Schools, Page 12

INSIDE

Memory machines

You might remember Mold-A-Ramas from your childhood, the old-timey machines at zoos and museums that turn out pungent plastic souvenirs while you wait. They're still in operation — Mold-A-Rama Inc. is based in Brookfield — and they're the subject of a new exhibit at the Museum of Science and Industry. **A+E**

Boosting the city's neighborhoods: A \$5.5 million grant to Choose Chicago aims to expand tourism in 12 more underrepresented communities. **Life+Travel**



Radio personality Lin Brehmer in the WXRT studios on March 16, 2012. **E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Last great Chicago DJ?

With the death of WXRT's iconic Lin Brehmer and the rise of AI, are radio's glory days over?

By William Lee
Chicago Tribune

The death of iconic WXRT-FM disc jockey Lin Brehmer not only left a hole in Chicago's once mighty rock radio landscape, it's a further reminder of the slow fade of the age when big personalities dominated radio and influenced the musical tastes of millions.

Brehmer, 68, who died Sunday after battling prostate cancer, was part of a pantheon of esteemed DJs who ruled local radio and

launched the careers of untold artists by simply playing their music on the air. Brehmer, who once earned the nickname "The Reverend of Rock 'n' Roll," combined an encyclopedic knowledge of music with heartfelt personal commentary.

A day after his death, social media was flooded with online memorials from musical acts including Wilco and Los Lobos, along with actor John Cusack,

Turn to DJ, Page 6



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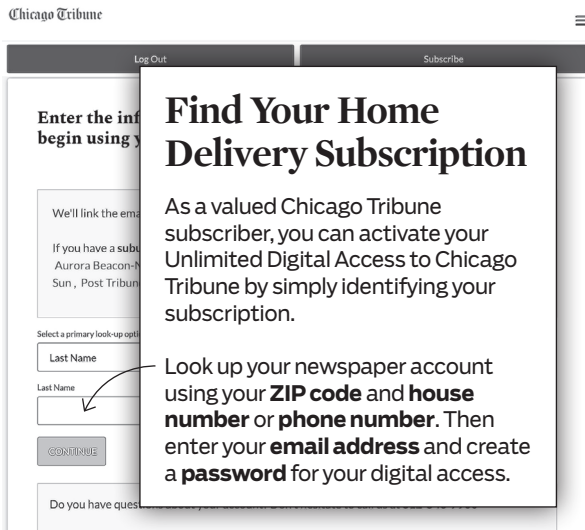


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Tribune books

“Turn It Up: A Guided Tour Through the Worlds of Pop, Rock, Rap and More” Settle in to “Turn it Up,” a collection of Greg Kot’s Tribune articles from 2000–2013. Previously available in ebook format only, the book is grouped by genres and include entertaining features, concert recaps, album reviews, insights on Chicago’s local music scene and other major issues associated with music and the industry.

“He Had It Coming: Four Murderous Women and the Reporter Who Immortalized Their Stories” “Chicago The Musical” has played on Broadway for more than 9,600 performances since it premiered on Nov. 14, 1996, yet not many people know the characters of Roxie Hart, Velma Kelly and others are inspired by real women. Their stories were captured by Chicago Tribune reporters. This new book includes original newspaper clippings, Watkins’ stories and new analysis written by Chicago Tribune reporter Kori Rumore and visual editor Marianne Mather, film critic Michael Phillips, theater critic Chris Jones and Rick Kogan.

“Capone: A Photographic Portrait of America’s Most Notorious Gangster.” Using many never-before-published photographs and newspaper clippings from the Tribune’s archives, this coffee-table book chronicles the rise and fall of Al Capone. The photos and articles tell a fascinating story about Capone and those connected to him, including his family, mob rivals and targets.

“Ask Amy: Advice for Better Living” For over a decade, Amy Dickinson has been the Chicago Tribune’s signature general advice columnist, helping readers with questions both personal and pressing. This book, which collects columns from 2011 to 2013, is a testament to the empathetic counsel and practical common-sense tips that Dickinson has been distilling for years.

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Reyna Ortiz helped push to change a law for people with past felony convictions who want to legally change their names. Ortiz was convicted of identity theft 20 years ago. **TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Fewer restrictions for felons seeking name change likely

Legislation now on Pritzker’s desk after Senate debate

By **Jeremy Gornor**
Chicago Tribune

SPRINGFIELD — Reyna Ortiz hopes that one day soon she will be able to show her ID when required without creating confusion because the card has a man’s name on it.

A transgender woman, Ortiz has attempted to legally change her name to match her female identity but has been unable to do so because of an Illinois law that prevents name changes by anyone convicted of identity theft.

Ortiz was convicted on that charge about 20 years ago after she says she committed fraud in an effort to pay for gender-affirming surgery.

Legislation now on Gov. J.B. Pritzker’s desk would loosen restrictions for people with past felony convictions who want to legally change their names. The measure passed in the Illinois Senate during the lame-duck session earlier this month, with five Democrats voting no, after being approved with bipartisan support in the House in 2021.

A sometimes contentious debate preceded the Jan. 10 vote in the Senate, with opponents arguing the bill would allow felons to escape scrutiny and commit more crimes.

Supporters countered that the measure is intended to protect victims of human trafficking, as well as help those in the transgender community like Ortiz.

“Every time I pull my ID out, people are like, ‘You’re a man?’” said Ortiz, 42, who lives in Chicago’s western suburbs. “I’m a woman. I live as a woman. I look like a woman. I’m a transgender woman.”

“There’s so many trans women walking around with IDs that don’t match their gender identity and that opens us up to various degrees of systemic discrimination.”

Illinois residents are already allowed to put the gender they identify with on IDs issued through the secretary of state’s office, a spokesman said.

The bill removes a lifetime ban on name changes for people who have been convicted of identity theft, as well as for those on state registries for convictions on offenses including murder, arson and various sex crimes. For all other felonies, the bill lifts a 10-year waiting period from the completion

of a sentence for people to change their names.

Judges would have ultimate say over approving name changes for people convicted of felonies that had been subject to the lifetime ban, and the measure would allow county prosecutors to object to those name-change petitions.

In those cases, the petitioners would have to convince judges that they want to change their name because they’re transgender, were victims of human trafficking, for religious reasons or because they got married.

Getting the bill through the General Assembly took more than five years, according to Khadine Bennett, the director of advocacy and intergovernmental affairs for the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois, which

former and current names would then appear on the registry, Cunningham said.

Opponents raised concerns about sex offenders being eligible to change their names without victims being notified.

“If it was only those who had been sex trafficked, I could get on board with this bill,” said GOP state Sen. Terri Bryant, of Murphysboro. “But it isn’t.”

State Sen. Chapin Rose, a Republican from Mahomet, spoke of the lengthy and expensive process he and his wife went through to get their daughter’s name changed in court to alleviate confusion about the pronunciation of her name.

“This is crazy,” Rose said. “You put law-abiding citizens through heck, yet we’re going to change the name of

women facing prostitution charges had at one point been victims of human trafficking, he said.

“The problem they often ran into is when they had their case adjudicated and went back into society, the person who trafficked them in the first place would track them down and find them and draw them back into a life of abuse and crime,” Cunningham said.

“And one of the things they talked about doing was changing their name so they’d be harder to track down.”

Ortiz said she transitioned from being male to female when she was 13, dropped her legal name (which she didn’t want to disclose) and took the name Reyna. Two years later she got involved in the sex trade.

“It was 1995. I was in Cicero, Little Village, Pilsen as a beautiful, androgynous person in a gang-infested city,” she said. “Men sexualized me and I learned to (be a) prostitute ... And what forced me into prostitution was poverty, you know, and ignorance and all those things.”

In her early 20s Ortiz committed fraud and identity theft, she said, so that she could pay for gender-affirming surgery.

“There was very, very little assistance for trans people in the ‘90s and the early 2000s,” Ortiz said. “You were a prostitute. You were a fraud queen. You were all these kinds of things ... And these surgeries are not discounted. You have to come up with \$12,000 if you need something.”

More than 10 years after completing a 30-month probation sentence, Ortiz said she sought legal help to get her name changed at the Daley Center. She answered a number of questions, including about her past criminal record. When she told a staffer that she was convicted of identity theft, she found out that she couldn’t legally change her name in Illinois.

“And I had to mourn the fact that I would live with my legal name ... for the rest of my life,” Ortiz said.

Ortiz has helped push to change the law for herself and others, becoming involved in the legislation now on Pritzker’s desk four and a half years ago.

“I committed a crime. I was a young prostitute ... But I paid my debt to this society,” Ortiz said. “I paid it. So does that mean that I will have to be punished for the rest of my life?”

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CHICAGOLAND



Cliff Panek, 69, votes at the Chicago Board of Elections Loop Super Site during early voting on Thursday. **ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS**

Early voting for Chicago elections has begun

Here's how and where to cast your ballot before Feb. 28

By A.D. Quig and Kori Rumore
Chicago Tribune

Voters across Chicago will be making their picks for mayor, alderman, city treasurer, clerk and, for the first time, representatives on police district councils. Some voters also will be asked local referendum questions.

The battle for the fifth floor of City Hall includes nine candidates: Incumbent Mayor Lori Lightfoot is seeking a second term but, like many other big-city mayors, is facing headwinds over a rise in crime, questions about public schools, and the lingering impacts of COVID-19 on the city's business climate, public transit and other government services. Challengers have broadly criticized what they describe as her combative style and failure to live up to campaign promises. She's argued she is making good on promises to make the city more equitable.

Lightfoot faces state Rep. Kabium "Kam" Buckner, U.S. Rep. Jesús "Chuy" García, activist Ja'Mal Green, Cook County Commissioner Brandon Johnson, Ald. Sophia King, 4th, Ald. Roderick Sawyer, 6th, former CPS CEO Paul Vallas and businessman Willie Wilson.

If no candidate secures more than 50% of the vote on Election Day on Feb. 28, the top two vote-getters will face off in a runoff election on April 4. The same is true for aldermanic candidates.

Two major factors affect this year's City Council races: A wave of aldermanic exits — due to retirement, criminal indictment or candidates seeking higher office — will guarantee several new faces come May. Wards also have brand-new boundaries following a bruising redistricting battle, meaning candidates may be campaigning in new territory and voters might be located in a new ward. The Chicago Board of Election Commissioners also cut the number of precincts by nearly 40% since the primary last year, meaning most voters' polling places have changed.

Max Bever, spokesman for the board, said that despite the "big change" in polling places, the board did not see any statistical anomalies that looked like people were prevented from voting after



Al Jackson, 66, hands in his ballot while voting at the Chicago Board of Elections Loop Super Site during early voting on Thursday.

the changes. The "canary in the coal mine" about polling place problems would have been big changes in provisional ballots, he said.

"We had just over 6,000 provisional ballots for the last Nov. 8 election, which is a lot less than we've seen in other midterms," Bever said. "Turnout was lower than we'd like to see, but it looks like we matched that trend statewide."

"The vast majority of polling places for February are going to be the same as they were in November," Bever said.

Chicago's shift away from machine politics and toward progressive organizing could continue, as old-school politicians are fading from the limelight.

Ald. Edward Burke, 14th, is not running for reelection for the first time in more than a half-century and former House Speaker Michael Madigan — who held sway over many local elections over the years — has stepped down amid a federal criminal indictment. Long-serving council moderates are also heading for the exits. Meanwhile, groups aligned with labor unions and the Democratic Socialists of America are expanding their reach and seeking to boost their numbers.

Voters in 11 of the city's 50 wards — the 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 17th, 27th, 28th, 32nd, 35th, 42nd, 44th, and 47th — have just one choice for alderman. City Treasurer Melissa Conyears-Ervin and City Clerk Anna Valencia, who ran unsuccessfully for secretary of state in 2022, are also both running unopposed.

For the first time, Chicago voters will see police district council elections on their ballots. Representatives in those districts will be responsible for collaborating with department officials on community policing issues. District members will also help select individuals for the Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability. That body

is tasked with helping select and remove the heads of the city's Police Department and police oversight bodies and setting CPD policy.

"This is unique in Chicago history and we hope voters step up and turn out to vote," Bever said.

The candidates in each police district receiving the most, second-most and third-most number of votes will be the winners. But four police districts — the 1st, 5th, 6th and 14th — have only two candidates on the ballot. That means write-in candidates could potentially for the first time in Chicago's history win municipal offices. Write-in candidates are eligible only if they submit a declaration-of-intent form to the city, according to Bever; if 400 voters in the 1st District, for example, wrote "Mickey Mouse," he would not win, Bever said.

The names of write-in candidates who have submitted their paperwork to the city won't be available until Feb. 22, six days before Election Day. If two write-in candidates in the same district receive the same number of votes, election authorities would choose the winner by lottery.

In ballot referendums, voters in the 16th Ward will be asked whether they think the 63rd and Racine station on CTA's Green Line should be reopened for Englewood riders. And in certain precincts in the 5th Ward voters will be asked about housing affordability near the Obama Presidential Center.

If you aren't opting for vote-by-mail but find that you'll be unavailable to cast your ballot on Election Day, you can vote early.

In Chicago, early voting began on Jan. 26 at the Loop Super Site at 191 N. Clark St. and at the Board of Elections office on the sixth floor at 69 W. Washington St.

On Feb. 13, early voting expands to polling places in each ward.

In Chicago, residents can vote at any early-voting site regardless of what ward they

live in. The Chicago Board of Elections also will take calls from voters looking for information at its Early Voting Election Central at 312-269-7900.

What is early voting?

Whether you travel for business, can't get to the polls on Election Day or simply prefer to get your civic responsibility out of the way, voting early is an option.

Votes cast early aren't counted until polls close on Election Day on Feb. 28.

Do I need to bring an ID?

If you already are registered to vote and your address is correct, you do not need to bring your ID, though it's not a bad idea to bring it in case your signature doesn't match the one on file. Be sure to bring two forms of identification if you also plan to register on the same day you plan to vote or if you need to change your address or name. At least one of those IDs must list your current address.

What's the timing for a mail-in ballot?

Anyone who has requested a mail-in ballot should receive it soon. Feb. 23 is the deadline to request a mail-in ballot, and Feb. 28 — Election Day — is the latest date a mail-in ballot can be postmarked to be counted.

Where do I return my mail-in ballot?

Chicago voters can mail their ballot or deposit it at any of the Chicago Board of Elections' secured drop boxes. One important note: Each ballot must include the signed and sealed ballot return envelope with the voter's name on it.

Mail-in ballots can be returned to the drop boxes at:

■ Chicago Board of Elections (Sixth floor, Board offices), 69 W. Washington St., Chicago. You can submit your ballots anytime at this site through 7 p.m. on Election Day (Feb. 28).

■ Chicago Election Board Annex (Loop Super Site), 191 N. Clark St., Chicago. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday; 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday (Jan. 26-Feb. 19). 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Monday-Friday (Feb. 20-24). 6 a.m.-7 p.m., Election Day (Feb. 28).

■ Any of the early-voting sites in each of the 50 wards.

What if I've already received a mail-in ballot but want to participate in early voting instead?

If you decide to vote early in person but already received a mail-in ballot, bring that ballot with you when you go to vote in person to have the ballot that was mailed to you canceled.



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Woodlawn shelter for migrants could open soon

Former school may start housing people in the coming week

By **Shanzeh Ahmad**
Chicago Tribune

About 250 migrants could begin moving into a former school-turned-shelter in the Woodlawn neighborhood in the next week despite continued resistance from some nearby residents. Representatives of the city, including Brandie Knazze, commissioner of the Department of Family and Support Services, shared plans for the former Wadsworth Elementary School with about 50 residents and stakeholders during a community meet-

ing Saturday at Hyde Park Academy High School. The Wadsworth shelter is part of the city's response to the thousands of migrants who have arrived in Chicago on more than 100 buses from Texas and Colorado since August. The city still sees an average of 10 new arrivals per day, according to the Department of Family and Support Services. The shelter was set to open earlier this month but was delayed after pushback from Woodlawn residents. City officials at Saturday's meeting did not have an exact date but said the migrants are set to move into the shelter as early as the coming week. The shelter will remain open 24/7, and the city plans to use the

old school as a shelter for up to two years. The shelter will have 24/7 security at all entrances provided by the city, and the Chicago Police Department is implementing a community safety plan, which includes regular visits to the shelter. Chicago police 3rd district Commander Roderick Watson said Saturday police, including the department's community safety team, will be ready to respond to emergencies at the shelter or if additional security is needed. Residents of the shelter will receive and sign a copy of the shelter's rules and expectations upon moving in, the city said. Rules include signing in and out when entering or exiting the

shelter, abiding by an 11 p.m. curfew, not allowing visitors and no use of drugs or alcohol on the property. Several people shared frustrations Saturday about plans for the shelter, saying they were brought to the table too late in the conversation. Some said they felt cheated out of resources that could have been reinvested into those struggling in the Woodlawn community. Carol Waitse, a 22-year homeowner in Woodlawn who lives across the street from the shelter, said she signed up to speak at the meeting Saturday to "reiterate the significance of the opposition" and "emphasize our disappointment." "We've had a lot of conversations, but honestly

it feels like our concerns are still falling on deaf ears," she said. "The office of community engagement is really feeling like the office of community enforcement because we're not getting feedback on some very important issues." Knazze said no resources were diverted from the community or other programs to help those who need it locally, as the work being done for local residents is separate from what is being done to help migrants. "This is a state of emergency," she said. "We're trying to make sure that residents are treated with dignity and respect and that they have a safe place to stay while they figure out their

next destination." Knazze said her department funds several programs and services, including early learning, youth homelessness and senior support as well as human services and workforce programs. Knazze said at a town hall-style meeting earlier in January at the Apostolic Church of God in Woodlawn that the city plans to share biweekly updates with Ald. Jeanette Taylor on matters such as capacity at the shelter, challenges or successes and upcoming plans. There are also plans for monthly community meetings for the first three months the shelter is open followed by bimonthly meetings thereafter.



Taking the plunge

Polar Plunge participants run into Lake Michigan on Saturday at Oak Street Beach in Chicago.
SHANNA MADISON/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Mokena weighs options as cost of July 4 fireworks display nearly doubles

By **Alexandra Kukulka**
Daily Southtown

The Mokena Village Board and Park District officials are considering options as a proposal for the Fourth of July fireworks display is projected to cost \$50,000, double the price of last year's fireworks show. The village has had a contract with Pyrotecnico for its Fourth of July fireworks display for \$25,800 and split the cost with the Park District, said assistant village administrator Greg Anderson. Village staff contacted

Pyrotecnico this month to discuss a draft contract and were informed the company cannot provide this year's fireworks show because of retirements and staffing shortages, Anderson said. Pyrotecnico has multiyear contracts with Orland Park and New Lenox, according to officials in those towns. Mokena has signed contracts with the Indiana-based company year by year, said Mokena Mayor Frank Fleischer. "Doubling it from \$25,000 to \$50,000 is a lot of money, but we're going to look at it

and we're in the process of doing that," Fleischer said. Village staff sought quotes from nine other vendors, but of the seven that responded only Mad Bomber was available July 3 or 4 at a cost of \$50,000, according to a village news release. Mokena staff asked the company to tentatively hold the date and provide a draft contract while talking with the Park District and exploring corporate sponsorships, according to the release. Last week, the village of Tinley Park agreed to a contract for \$50,000 with

Mad Bomber to hold a fireworks show on July 3 at the 80th Avenue Metra station. The decision caused the Tinley Park-Park District to cancel its planned fireworks show for July 4. Mokena staff have reached out to other companies to see if they have availability for a fireworks display on July 2, 3 or 7, Anderson said. "That's the one celebration that the village puts a lot of emphasis on, so we understand the importance to the community," Anderson said. "The board wants to consider all options

before making a decision." Mokena Park District executive director Greg Vitale said the partnership between the Park District and the village has been successful, but \$25,000 is a lot of money. "Paying double is a tough pill to swallow for a 20-minute show," Vitale said. "We're going to try to make this work as much as we can within reason." In Orland Park, the village is in the final year of a three-year contract with Pyrotecnico, and next year the village will be up for a two-year renewal of the

contract, said spokeswoman Nabeha Zegar. "The vendor, at this point, has not reached out with any concerns, so we don't seem to have any. We're all set for the Independence Day celebration, including the fireworks," Zegar said. In New Lenox, Mayor Tim Baldermann said the village has a two-year contract with Pyrotecnico. This year, the contract will increase by 5%, he said. "There obviously is an increase, like with everything else, with labor cost and supply and demand," Baldermann said.

Q&A with Valerie

Valeri Plunkett

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DJ

from Page 1

Mayor Lori Lightfoot and former Mayor Rahm Emanuel. Brehmer was “the voice of WXRT,” Cusack tweeted.

Brehmer’s arrival at the rock station in 1984, first as a music director and later as WXRT on-air talent, came during the time of big local radio and even bigger radio stars who shook off the front office formality of old radio for a new style that blended musical knowledge with personality and personal story and more profound messages.

Television fans recently heard a sample of Brehmer’s confident, reassuring dulcet timbre to start off an episode of the hit Chicago-based FX TV series “The Bear.”

Brehmer’s time on radio hearkened back to simpler times when a trusted DJ was like a member of the family much in the same way as local TV news anchors. During radio’s golden age, through the 1950s and 1960s, Chicago was full of popular DJs from Dick Biondi and WLS’ stable of young disc jockeys to Herb Kent and his fellow “Good Guys” deejays on WVON.

“Whether it was R&B radio or a progressive rock station, the success of those stations was tied as much to the personalities of the people playing the records as it was the records themselves,” said former Tribune rock critic and author Greg Kot.

“Radio was the primary way that people found out about new music and that’s no longer the case — it hasn’t been for 20 years now,” Kot said. “People don’t need the radio to find new music. It’s a click away on their cellphone.”

Industry insiders say terrestrial radio DJs will likely never reach the heights of earlier eras following the corporate takeover of radio during recent decades, though local DJs can still thrive and turn people on to new artists despite radio’s overall shrink. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics suggests that deejaying and radio announcer jobs will continue to decline, with



Berwyn freshman Mina Kreml DJs her show “The New Wave Pool” in the Radio DePaul studio in the basement of a dormitory on the DePaul University campus in the Lincoln Park neighborhood on Thursday. **E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

jobs slated to sink by 4% through 2031.

By the 1970s, influential DJs gave way to more comedic on-air personalities who not only had less say over what music was played on the air, many also prerecorded their segments for play at another time.

Today, voice-tracking, or prerecorded segments are obviously “not live,” said Dave Plier, a weekend talk show host on WGN-AM 720 and board chairman of the Museum of Broadcast Communications. “It’s made to sound live. You don’t know if that host is local or not. Somebody might just be listening to that station because of the genre of music they’re playing when people used to tune into music radio to also listen to the personality.”

While radio eventually fell to a secondary medium behind television, terrestrial radio — and its larger-

than-life DJs — continued to shape the musical taste of generations of listeners. As a small example, Steve Dahl’s infamous “Disco Demolition Night” served as the death knell of disco worldwide.

“By the time the 1980s arrived, you had people on air — Jonathon Brandmeier, a Steve and Garry (Meier), a Kevin Matthews — they weren’t disc jockeys, they were radio personalities,” said Plier, host of “The Dave Plier Show” and “The Sinatra Hours.” “There was good conversations happening and yet music was just a piece of that.”

“Local DJs will probably remain present because radio is still a local medium, but the amount of national DJs that feature on stations has increased due to corporate consolidation,” said Daniel Makagon, program chair at DePaul University’s college of communication and an expert on the radio industry. “It seems like the big personalities are used for morning shows. Beyond that, the notion of an influential radio DJ is probably a feature of radio in the past.”

An ominous sign of this was radio giant iHeartMedia’s pivot toward using artificial intelligence instead of human radio programmers. The change was believed to be responsible for the firing of hundreds of radio station workers across the country, according to The Washington Post.

In 2017, the head of New York University’s Steinhardt Music Business program wrote a report that predicted the fall of terrestrial radio unless executives adapt to the changing industry and younger listeners, who have superior ways of accessing music.

“If radio broadcasters aim to maintain relevance if not dominance of listenership on new and rapidly evolving platforms like the connected car and smart speakers, they will have to out-innovate and outcompete digital-born disrupters for hearts, minds and ears in a way they haven’t since



WXRT radio personality Lin Brehmer and Mary Dixon in the WXRT studio on March 16, 2012. **E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

“Because DJs don’t select music or rarely select music on corporate radio, the influence has also diminished. DJs as tastemakers is definitely a thing of the past. But radio is unique because the medium has an interpersonal feel that is often missing from other media. DJs feel like they speak directly to us as listeners.”

— Daniel Makagon, program chair at DePaul University’s college of communication and an expert on the radio industry

the birth of their industry,” Larry S. Miller wrote in his report.

“Because DJs don’t select music or rarely select music on corporate radio, the influence has also diminished. DJs as tastemakers is definitely a thing of the past,” Makagon said. “But radio is unique because the medium has an interpersonal feel that is often missing from other media. DJs feel like they speak directly to us as listeners.”

Plier foresaw corporate stations hiring engaging morning and afternoon personalities to appeal to listeners. “On the music side of it, you’re going to have to have some great drive-time shows with people you can relate to; people you know

and who you’re familiar with and they’re your friends and they’re driving with you,” Plier said.

“I see very corporately owned radio stations going down a path to save money ... will that be successful at the end of the day? I don’t think so, because radio is local, I mean that is what radio is all about — it’s about local.”

Kot predicted that the world of podcasting could revitalize music radio if changes in copyright law allow podcasters to play music without paying large licensing fees.

He also said local personalities will always have a better chance of forging connections with listeners than corporate stations. “I

think people yearn for the human connection at the end of the day. I think people get sick of numbers and you’re already starting to see it with younger people gravitating back to vinyl records. They want something a little bit more ... a digital connection isn’t satisfying.”

“The art of storytelling is never going to go away. People always want stories to be told to them. They don’t want just cold facts. They want stories and that’s as old as humankind,” Kot said.

Makagon, the DePaul professor, has some lingering hope of wise and knowledgeable DJs returning to the airwaves, though trends suggest otherwise. “As someone who loves music and has always been drawn to DJs who preach a love of music and music community, the idealist in me would like to think that what is old will become new again,” Makagon said.

“Unfortunately, the realist in me believes that we are seeing a shift toward DJs with less connection to music and general entertainers who could be on the radio or hosting a show for E! Entertainment Network.”

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TRAVEL: Destinations to explore coastal conservation

Boutique Expeditions in Alaska and British Columbia

KEVIN SMITH

Wondering where to go next? You're not alone. After a frenetic return to travel, many are asking how to enjoy the rush of discovery in a way that helps, rather than hinders, our planet's precious wild spaces.

Maple Leaf Adventures, pioneers in yacht-based regenerative travel experiences in Alaska and British Columbia since the late 80s, are one company helping travelers reconnect with the natural world in the ways that count.

With much of the world's coastlines' natural systems eradicated or compromised by urban and resource development, the Pacific Northwest is a rarity: intact, powerful, ancient. Closer to home than Africa's Serengeti, yet every way as exotic.

These less-visited destinations for the year ahead encompass places filled with wonder, excitement for all ages, and supportive of local communities and ecosystems. Under the radar, ahead of the curve, just waiting to be explored.

Small Expeditions: Worlds Closed Off to Bigger Ships

While not far north of Vancouver, BC, the region's fjords and archipelagos are without roads. To explore the byways off the famed 'inside passage', Maple Leaf's guests live and dine aboard one of the company's three expedition yachts: *Maple Leaf*, a sailing ship built in Vancouver in 1904, with a pedigree as a luxury yacht and a tough long-liner; *Swell*, a converted tugboat built in Vancouver in 1912 that served communities as a workboat for 92 years; or *Cascadia*, a luxury catamaran, recently refit by craftspeople and crew in Victoria and relaunched in 2019.

Maintained in winter by owners and crew, these boats are coastal characters in their own right, and living pieces of maritime history. Whether you're steering the 95-ton *Maple Leaf* under sail, dining in *Swell*'s mahogany-accented salon, or discussing the chart in *Cascadia*'s bridge, you'll quickly feel a part of the coastal community.

Being between 90 and 140-feet long, these boats also have access (and special permission) to visit protected areas not open to larger vessels—places like the Great Bear Rainforest, that the team at Maple Leaf Adventures have played a role in protecting for decades. Crew and guests tender ashore multiple times a day for guided wildlife viewing, beach explorations, rainforest walks and other unscripted activity.

David Spence and his wife Donna, of Victoria, explored the Great Bear Rainforest with Maple Leaf Adventures last August. "For me, it was a mystical experience," said David.

"It went beyond describing the scenery that we experienced as beautiful, to something transcendent. It prompted both my wife and I to do another trip." David and his wife will sail with Maple Leaf again this summer, to Haida Gwaii.

"There's a history there, and heritage that we are hoping to have revealed to us. The ways and the wisdom of Indigenous lifestyle."

Regenerative Travel: Adventures That Benefit Destinations

Imagine a kind of travel that doesn't just minimize the impact of your interactions with the natural world, but actually benefits the people, places and wildlife you visit. Maple Leaf owners Kevin and Maureen, locals with a history of coastal stewardship, have been motivated by this mission for decades.

Their conservation work is multi-faceted; one facet is through 1% For The Planet. In 2008, Maple Leaf Adventures became the first cruise company in the world to join the initiative, which certifies companies really do donate a share of revenues to environmental causes every year.

"Donations are one way in which a regenerative travel company like ours creates a symbiotic relationship with its natural and cultural environment," said co-owner Maureen. "Our donations go to organizations that are researching, restoring and protecting the world that gives us life—the coastal temperate rainforest."

Recipients include Alaska Whale Foundation, Raincoast Conservation Foundation, Marine Education and Research Society, Laskeek Bay Conservation Society, Cetus Research & Conservation, and the Bateman Foundation.

ALASKA

PACIFIC OCEAN

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Haida Gwaii

Great Bear Rainforest

Broughton Archipelago

Vancouver Island

Maple Leaf's conservation relationships enable guests to meet these stewards and scientists in the field, learning about new discoveries, perhaps before they are well-known in the world.

For more information visit mapleleafadventures.com.

To learn more about 1% For The Planet visit onepercentfortheplanet.org.



JEFF REYNOLDS

ALASKA SUPERVOYAGE

From electric-blue icebergs to the lush canopies of ancient rainforest under snow-capped mountains, southeast Alaska is a dream vacation world. Maple Leaf's longer supervoyages take it all in — whales to bears to glaciers to historic towns.

10 to 13 days, June through August, from USD \$8900 all-inclusive.



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PHILIP STONE

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This epic summertime odyssey is about faraway islands, whales, and the oceanic world they roam. Cruise along the remote north and central coast of BC's Great Bear Rainforest by sailing ship or catamaran, where humpbacks and orcas come to migrate. Guests can contribute to whale science too.

5 to 9 days, July and August, from USD \$4400 all-inclusive.



JEFF REYNOLDS

HAIDA GWAI

An archipelago of steep, rainforested islands on the continental shelf off BC's mainland, the only region in the world protected from the mountain peaks to the ocean floor. Only 3,000 people each year are able to visit this protected region. Highlights include abundant marine life and traditional Haida village sites, including UNESCO World Heritage Site SGang Gwaay.

8 to 9 days, May through July, from USD \$6200 all-inclusive.



MARLO SHAW

GREAT BEAR RAINFOREST

In a place that is wild, raw and lives up to expectations set by nature documentaries, the Great Bear Rainforest shows what a conservation-based tourism economy can look like when done right. Trips explore fjords where grizzly bears roam free, wolves fish for salmon and the rare white spirit bear lives.

8 to 9 days, May through October, from USD \$4500 all-inclusive.



UP CLOSE WITH RESEARCHER JACKIE HILDERING

Jackie, also known by many as "the Marine Detective", is a co-founder and humpback whale researcher with the Marine Education and Research Society (MERS). Jackie aims to make positive change through education and is a widely recognized marine naturalist and naturalist trainer. Calling North-eastern Vancouver Island home, Jackie is passionate about whales and their local habitat, the waters that surround her home.

In the regions where Maple Leaf Adventures operate trips, MERS are responsible for the cataloging of humpback (and minke) whales, which is essential to understanding almost everything else about them: who they are, how they use areas, their life stories.

How is the recovery of humpbacks going in the Pacific Northwest?

Humpbacks were almost driven to extinction by whaling. There has been a remarkable comeback and they are protected under Canada's Species at Risk Act as a species of special concern. Continued threats to humpbacks include climate change and increased overlap between human activities, leading to noise, collisions and entanglement. Collisions are a very real concern for human safety, too.

How can visitors support whale conservation while aboard?

There's incredible value in collecting ID photos, certainly from areas where there is less data being collected, to gain better understanding of how the whales are using the coast.

These photos, taken by Maple Leaf Adventures crew or guests, have revealed previously undocumented humpbacks, given insight into their feeding strategies, and helped support that humpbacks return to the same places year after year. These are puzzle pieces that add to the understanding of humpback whales on the coast, not just in British Columbia, but the entire North Pacific.

What kind of lessons do you hope Maple Leaf Adventures guests take home with them?

When people return home, everything from their voter choices to consumer choices, to how they speak about wildlife influences how we relate to the natural world and see our place within it.

I hope people take away how lucky we are to have a second chance with wildlife and to learn from past mistakes. Whales are a powerful reminder of the capacity for human change. The last whaling station in British Columbia only closed in 1967. Orca were shot at. Now people hope to see them thriving in the wild. That is a very powerful reminder to people of how quickly we can change our actions when our values change. Even on the other side of the planet, our daily actions impact the welfare of whales, and all that depends on them.



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Refineries

from Page 1

lax regulations and weak enforcement, Schaeffer said Thursday during an online news conference.

Even when limits are in place, oil companies often pay minimal fines for violating the law. Some aren't penalized at all.

The Joliet refinery, on the Des Plaines River southwest of the city, exceeded its permitted levels of pollution 40 times between 2019 and 2021, federal records show. Neither federal nor state officials have sued Exxon-Mobil or fined the company for its repeated infractions.

Only three other refineries discharged more selenium than BP Whiting, located on the southwest shore of Lake Michigan about 8 miles from one of Chicago's water intake cribs. Small doses of the element are healthy, but higher levels can cause hair and nail loss, gastrointestinal distress, dizziness and tremors.

Citgo Lemont and Exxon-Mobil Joliet ranked fifth and ninth for selenium pollution, respectively, the analysis showed.

A public beach near the Whiting refinery is a popular spot for surfers drawn by big waves when winter winds whip down Lake Michigan from Canada.

Mitch McNeil, chairman of the local chapter of Surfrider, a nonprofit advocacy group, said he and other surfers have suffered eye, ear and urinary tract infections and gastrointestinal illnesses after swimming in dark brown water that smells alternately like metal, sewage, petroleum and a used ashtray.

"People always ask us why we keep surfing in dirty water," McNeil said. "Our response is we surf in it, but you drink it, so you should be just as concerned as we are."

BP routinely faces scrutiny about air pollution from the Whiting refinery. Water pollution hasn't drawn as much attention since the Chicago Tribune reported in 2007 that Indiana regulators were planning to relax limits on the refinery's discharges of ammonia, brain-damag-



Deer graze inside the gates of the ExxonMobil Joliet refinery on the Des Plaines River. The refinery exceeded its permitted levels of pollution 40 times between 2019 and 2021, federal records show. **WILLIAM DESHAZER/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

"People always ask us why we keep surfing in dirty water. Our response is we surf in it but you drink it, so you should be just as concerned as we are."

— Mitch McNeil, chairman of the local chapter of Surfrider, a nonprofit advocacy group

ing mercury and suspended solids — tiny particles of sewage sludge.

The company later backed down and vowed to abide by the terms of its existing permit.

Responding to the new analysis of federal data, BP said it will "continue to operate consistent with its permit as part of our commitment to safe, compliant and reliable operations, not just at Whiting refinery but at every facility BP operates around the world."

Speaking on behalf of the oil industry in general, the American Petroleum Insti-

tute did not directly answer questions about the lack of standards for selenium and other pollutants.

"Our industry takes seriously its obligation to protect our nation's waters and adheres to strict local, state and federal requirements to ensure water is properly treated and tested prior to leaving a facility," Will Hupman, the trade group's vice president of downstream policy said in a statement.

Schaeffer noted that federal pollution standards for refineries and several other industry sectors

haven't been updated since Ronald Reagan was president during the 1980s.

Federal judges are taking notice. Calling existing standards out of date is a "charitable understatement," a federal appellate court concluded after the EPA in 2019 updated its 1982 limits on water pollution from coal-fired power plants.

Environmental groups asked EPA administrator Michael Regan in 2021 why the agency had fallen so far behind in meeting its legal obligations under the Clean Water Act. The EPA acknowledged the letter but didn't respond.

An EPA spokesman said the agency is aware of the new pollution analysis "and will review and respond accordingly."

Most of the top polluting refineries are in California or along the Gulf of Mexico in Texas and Louisiana. Also in the top 10 is a Phillips 66 refinery on the Mississippi

River in Wood River, a small, heavily industrialized Illinois city upstream from St. Louis.

The Wood River refinery released more fish-harming nickel than any of the other facilities reviewed. It also ranked among the top 10 for discharges of selenium, nitrogen and total dissolved solids.

For people who live near refineries, the new report reflects what they see, smell and breathe — and ingest when eating locally caught fish or while swimming.

Gina Ramirez grew up on Chicago's Southeast Side and often visits Whihala Beach in Whiting, 2 miles up the lakeshore from the BP refinery. Nowadays her son joins her.

"To think that we are recreating among some of the most polluted waters is terrifying," said Ramirez, an outreach manager at the nonprofit Natural Resources Defense Council and senior adviser to the Southeast

Environmental Task Force. "U.S. EPA needs to step up."

John Beard, a former refinery worker who leads the Port Arthur Community Action Network in Texas, said communities like his rely on the EPA to enforce air and water laws because they can't afford to fight for a cleaner environment.

"(Oil companies) don't build these facilities in Beverly Hills or River Oaks (in Houston) or Madison Avenue," Beard said. "They don't build in communities of affluence that have the ways and means to go about seeking justice and correction."

"Many people say we need the jobs and we need all these products (oil companies) produce. That's true, but we don't need the pollution that comes with it, and they can do better."

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Grandmother of 6 grateful for the outpouring of help

By Mike Nolan
Daily Southtown

When a fire broke out early Jan. 7 at the Park Forest home Romeno Carradine shares with her six grandchildren, they were able to escape with their lives, the clothes on their back and not much else.

On Thursday, Carradine, who works at Rich Township High School District 227, was surprised when she learned district employees and those in Matteson Elementary District 162, where her grandchildren attend, had raised more than \$10,000 to help her and her family get back on their feet.

"I was surprised and very emotional," Carradine said. "This is going to help me establish a new home, I hope and pray."

She has worked since August as a food service specialist at District 227's Fine Arts & Communica-

tions campus in Richton Park.

The fundraising effort began two days after the fire with an initial goal of \$6,000.

"We surpassed that in four days," District 227 Superintendent Johnnie Thomas said Thursday after the presentation to Carradine.

He said the fundraising effort won't be the end of efforts to assist Carradine.

"The support for this family is going to be ongoing, and we will assist in any way we can to help," Thomas said.

Carradine said she and her family were alerted to the fire about 7 a.m. by smoke detectors in their rented home in the 500 block of Antietam Street.

Her grandchildren range in age from 6 to 12, and "we just ran outside, no shoes, just pajamas, no coats or nothing," she said.

After the fire, Carradine said, her co-workers assembled contributions of food,

socks, sweaters and coats.

For now, Carradine said, she and her grandchildren are living with family in Matteson. "It's very crowded, but it's OK, they made room for us," she said. "It's a blessing."

While she and her family have been displaced, Carradine said she is thankful for the outpouring of support.

"God has been good, and this district has been amazing, the people here are amazing," she said. "We just want to say thank you and want to find someplace stable to live."

Thomas said after learning about the fire and Carradine's situation, his district and Matteson District 162 realized they needed to help.

"The outpouring of this community, the love and support for this family, was amazing and emblematic of the community we live in," he said.

mnolan@tribpub.com

Church in Naperville learns it never received council OK for location

By Suzanne Baker
Naperville Sun

A Naperville church that's been operating in violation of city ordinances for more than 20 years only learned of the situation after seeking city permission for a new sign.

The Rev. Robert Carden told the Naperville Planning and Zoning Commission at a recent meeting he was surprised when told they could not get approval for a sign with the church's new name, Align Ministries, without first getting approval to operate a church in the industrial park where they'd been for years.

"We are actually the third church to be in our space," he said.

The first to use Suite 17 at 1701 Quincy Ave. was Vineyard Fellowship of Naperville, which built out the space in the early 1990s and received an occupancy permit.

Community Christian Church moved in in 1993, using the location for offices and as a place where people could gather during the week because its Sunday church services were held in the Naperville North High School auditorium.

Community Christian moved to the Yellow Box on Ogden Avenue in 2001.

Carden said Grace Christian Fellowship received its occupancy permit for the Quincy Avenue facility in October 2000. They changed their name from

Grace Christian to Align Ministries in 2022.

It was only when they applied for a sign permit that an oversight — the lack of conditional use approval — was discovered by the city.

The Naperville Municipal Code was amended in 2007 to allow public assembly uses in industrial districts as long as they were granted conditional use approval.

The Planning and Zoning Commission voted unanimously last week to recommend the Naperville City Council grant the conditional use so the church is brought into compliance with zoning requirements and sign approval can be authorized. The next council meeting is Feb. 7.



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WHO WANTS TO BE THE NEXT MAYOR OF CHICAGO?

A look at the eight challengers and the incumbent vying to keep her post

By Gregory Pratt, Alice Yin and A.D. Quig | Photos by Armando L. Sanchez | Chicago Tribune

Nine people are on the 2023 ballot for mayor of Chicago, including Lori Lightfoot, who is aiming to land her second term after four years in office marked by crises and challenge, and eight others who are trying to unseat her.

The candidates include a multimillionaire businessman and a community activist, a congressman, two City Council members, a former schools chief, a state representative and a Cook County commissioner. They range in age from 27 to 74. Several have

made previous runs at City Hall's top job. Many have sought to show their progresses bona fides, others say they'd be tougher on crime — a dominant issue.

Early voting is underway. If no one gets more than 50% of the vote on Feb. 28, a runoff between the top two will take place April 4, with inauguration set for May.

Here's a look at the nine candidates, one of whom will be running Chicago come spring.



Kam Buckner

Though he only joined the General Assembly in 2019, state Rep. Kambium “Kam” Buckner, a self-styled progressive Democrat, has jumped into some of Springfield’s hottest issues, serving as one of the lead negotiators on the state’s clean energy package and the SAFE-T Act, sponsoring legislation that requires serialization of so-called ghost guns and that allows college athletes to be paid for use of their name and likeness, and backing legislation creating an elected school board in Chicago. He has not avoided controversy: Buckner has been charged twice for driving under the influence.

Since joining the mayoral race, Buckner, a former football player at the University of Illinois, has been steadily rolling out policy proposals, including improving CTA service and safety, boosting the city’s environmental commitments, and filling vacancies at the Chicago Police Department.

Age: 37
Born: Chicago
Personal: Married to Bernardette Salgado-Buckner; a son, Kas
Education: Bachelor’s degree, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; law degree, DePaul University
Neighborhood: Bronzeville
Current job: State representative; vice president of governmental affairs, Outfront Media
Government experience: State representative (2019-current); adviser for then-New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu (2012-13); aide to U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin (2007-12)
Political experience: Government and neighborhood relations for Chicago Cubs (2013-15); House chairman, Illinois Legislative Black Caucus (2020-current)
Campaign slogan: “From Chicago. For Chicago.”
Campaign website: kamformayor.com



Jesús ‘Chuy’ García

U.S. Rep. Jesús “Chuy” García ran for mayor in 2015, challenging incumbent Rahm Emanuel as the candidate hand-picked by Chicago’s progressive unions. Born in Durango, Mexico, García was a young protege of Latino community activist Rudy Lozano, who was a budding political star before he was killed by a gang member. With Harold Washington’s help, García won election as 22nd Ward Democratic committeeman in 1984. García was elected alderman and then state senator before being defeated by Hispanic allies of then-Mayor Richard M. Daley. After running for the Cook County Board, García ran against Emanuel and became a progressive folk hero. He jumped from the Cook County Board to the U.S. Congress in 2018 after Rep. Luis Gutierrez retired, where García formed an alliance with now-indicted Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan and became an influential power broker in state politics.

Age: 66
Born: Durango, Mexico
Personal: Married to Evelyn Chinae-García, three children
Education: Bachelor’s degree and master’s in urban public planning and policy, University of Illinois at Chicago
Neighborhood: Little Village
Current job: Congressman
Government experience: Elected 22nd Ward committeeman in 1984, won a special election for City Council in 1986, elected to the Illinois Senate in 1992, lost reelection in 1998. In 2010, García ran for Cook County commissioner and won. He successfully ran for U.S. Congress in 2018.
Political experience: García pushed Rahm Emanuel into Chicago’s first mayoral runoff in 2015 but lost. He passed on a bid for mayor in 2019, instead endorsing Lori Lightfoot.
Campaign slogan: “Chuy for Chicago”
Campaign website: chuyforchicago.com



Ja’Mal Green

Ja’Mal Green is a community activist and entrepreneur who made a name for himself during the protests over the Chicago police murder of Laquan McDonald. Green ran for mayor in 2019 until withdrawing amid a challenge to his signatures, and he remains the youngest candidate during this election cycle. In 2020, he demonstrated against Chase Bank’s lending practices among the Black community, earning a ban from the establishment’s branch locations — but also a promise from the bank to increase mortgage lending to Black and Latino families by \$600 million over five years. He grew up in the Gresham and Lawndale neighborhoods and has spoken about witnessing gun violence firsthand. Green has sought to use his lack of government experience as an advantage, running an anti-political establishment campaign.

Age: 27
Born: Chicago
Personal: Lives with partner, raising three sons
Education: Wendell Phillips Academy High School, with some college
Neighborhood: Beverly
Current job: Community activist, president of the nonprofit My Turn To Own, CEO of consulting firm Majos-tee Marketing
Government experience: Has not held elected office
Political experience: Surrogate for Sen. Bernie Sanders’ 2016 and 2020 presidential campaigns
Campaign slogan: “A future we can all believe in”
Campaign website: gogreenchicago.com



Brandon Johnson

Brandon Johnson has served on the Cook County Board of Commissioners since 2018, when he defeated incumbent Richard Boykin in the 1st District that covers the west suburbs and West Side of Chicago. Johnson is the son of a pastor and worked as a social studies teacher at Edward Jenner Academy in Cabrini Green until 2010. After that, he became an organizer with the Chicago Teachers Union, including during the historic 2012 teachers’ strike that heralded a new era for the union. He has backing from major labor organizations including CTU and the Local 73 and Healthcare chapters of the Service Employees International Union. During his time as county commissioner — a role he was reelected to this past November — Johnson pushed a measure making it illegal to refuse to show or rent property to people with certain criminal records. He also drafted a symbolic resolution that supported diverting money from policing in the wake of nationwide protests demanding police budgets be defunded.

Age: 46
Born: Elgin
Personal: Married to Stacie Rencher-Johnson, raising a daughter and two sons
Education: Bachelor’s degree in human services and youth development; master’s degree in teaching, Aurora University
Neighborhood: Austin
Current job: 1st District Cook County commissioner
Government experience: 1st District Cook County commissioner (2018-present), chief of staff to state Rep. Deborah Graham (2005-2010), constituent service director, state Sen. Don Harmon (2003-2004)
Political experience: Chicago Teachers Union organizer (2011-present)
Campaign slogan: “Brandon is better”
Campaign website: brandonforchicago.com



Sophia King

Sophia King has represented the 4th Ward that stretches along the lakefront from the South Loop to Bronzeville since 2016, when she was appointed to replace Ald. Will Burns. After retaining her seat in a special election the next year and again in 2019, she was chosen to helm the City Council’s Progressive Caucus in 2020. She is the only woman challenging Lightfoot for the mayor’s seat in 2023 and is known for working to rename Lake Shore Drive to honor Jean Baptiste Point DuSable, the Black founder of Chicago, as well as pushing for a minimum wage increase to \$15. When the city reviewed potential sites for its upcoming casino, King opposed locating it at the former Michael Reese Hospital in Bronzeville, saying it would be akin to “putting a casino in Harlem.” She and her husband are friends with the Obamas.

Age: 56
Born: Boulder, Colorado
Personal: Married to Alan King, a lawyer and house music DJ, with two adult daughters
Education: Bachelor’s degree in chemistry, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; master’s in education and social policy, Northwestern University
Neighborhood: Kenwood
Current job: 4th Ward alderman
Government experience: 4th Ward alderman (2016-present), volunteer and co-founder of Ariel Community Academy (1992-97), deputy director of sports administration at Chicago Public Schools (2001-03)
Political experience: Chair of the City Council Progressive Caucus (2020-present), president of the Kenwood Park Advisory Council (2008-15), vice chair of Planned Parenthood Chicago (1998-2005)
Campaign slogan: “A strong Chicago is a safe Chicago — further together”
Campaign website: sophiaforchicago.com



Lori Lightfoot

Mayor Lori Lightfoot shocked Chicago’s political establishment in 2019 when she defeated Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle in a landslide. Lightfoot had announced a long shot run against Rahm Emanuel in May 2018, after the mayor had appointed her to two different policing boards and before Emanuel announced he wouldn’t seek reelection. Lightfoot, a former federal prosecutor and big law attorney, took office promising to reform city government but has faced criticism for not following through on transparency promises. Much of her tenure has been spent leading the city through COVID-19 and dealing with high crime, which spiked dramatically in 2020. After two years of rising street violence, the city recorded a 14% decrease in homicides but was still worse than 2019, when Lightfoot took office. Lightfoot, for her part, argues that her plan to address violent crime is working but needs time.

Age: 60
Born: Massillon, Ohio
Personal: Married to Amy Eshleman with a teenage daughter
Education: Bachelor’s degree, University of Michigan; Juris Doctor, University of Chicago
Neighborhood: Logan Square
Current job: Mayor of Chicago
Government experience: Assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Illinois (1996-2002); chief administrator, Chicago Police Department Office of Professional Standards (2002-04); chief of staff and general counsel, Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications (2004-05); first deputy procurement officer, Chicago Department of Procurement Services (2005); co-chair, Chicago Police Accountability Task Force (2016); president, Chicago Police Board (2015-18).
Political experience: Mayor of Chicago
Campaign slogan: “Riding with Lori”
Campaign website: lightfootforchicago.com



Roderick Sawyer

The son of Eugene Sawyer, the former alderman and mayor who took over after the death of Harold Washington, Roderick Sawyer has represented the 6th Ward on Chicago's City Council since 2011. Before becoming alderman, Sawyer operated his own law firm focused mostly on licensing issues. Though largely a moderate in his first two terms, he was a member of the City Council's Progressive Caucus, which pushed back against some of former Mayor Rahm Emanuel's policies. Despite being her choice to lead the council's Committee on Health and Human Relations, Sawyer and Mayor Lori Lightfoot have clashed over efforts to create a civilian body with oversight of the Chicago Police Department — an initiative Sawyer led — and a commission to study giving descendants of enslaved African Americans reparations.

Age: 59
Born: Chicago
Personal: Married to Cheryll Aikens; two children, Sydni Celeste and Roderick T. Jr.
Education: Bachelor's in finance, DePaul University; law degree, IIT Chicago-Kent
Neighborhood: Greater Grand Crossing
Current job: 6th Ward alderman
Government experience: 6th Ward alderman (2011-current)
Political experience: Democratic committeeperson (2012-current), chairman of City Council Black Caucus (2015-19), LSC Chairman of McDade Classical School (2000-10)
Campaign slogan: "Reset Chicago"
Campaign website: sawyer4chicago.com



Paul Vallas

A former City Hall insider who has campaigned as both an expert administrator and outside-the-box thinker, Paul Vallas rose to local prominence as Chicago Public Schools CEO, serving under Mayor Richard M. Daley and has run for office several times. Vallas worked in school districts in Philadelphia, New Orleans, Haiti, Chile and Bridgeport, Connecticut, and worked as a consultant, including in an unpaid role for the city's controversial Fraternal Order of Police, which endorsed him. Vallas has made crime a cornerstone of his campaign. He said he would fire Superintendent David Brown and his leadership team, loosen residency requirements for officers and create a CTA patrol unit. Vallas also said he would offer parents "100% choice" on schools. He has also promised to lengthen the school day and year.

Age: 69
Born: Chicago
Personal: Married to Sharon Vallas, two adult children, Gus and Paul Jr. Son Mark died in 2018.
Education: Bachelor's and master's degrees in political science, both at Western Illinois University
Neighborhood: Bridgeport
Current job: Consultant, The Bronner Group
Government experience: Executive director of Illinois Economic and Fiscal Commission (1985-90); Chicago city revenue director (1990-93); Chicago city budget director (1993-95); CEO of Chicago Public Schools (1995-2001); superintendent of Philadelphia Public Schools (2002-07); superintendent of the state-run Recovery School District in New Orleans (2007-11); worked in post-earthquake school districts in Haiti and Chile (2010-12); superintendent of schools in Bridgeport, Conn. (2012-14); chief administrative officer, Chicago State University (2017-18)
Political experience: Lost narrowly to Rod Blagojevich in the 2002 Democratic primary for governor, coming in second in a field that also included Roland Burris. As lieutenant governor running mate to Gov. Pat Quinn, lost in the 2016 general election to Republicans Bruce Rauner and Lt. Gov. Evelyn Sanguinetti. Finished ninth in the 2019 Chicago mayoral election in a field of 14.
Campaign slogan: "Paul is for All!"
Campaign website: paulvallas2023.com



Willie Wilson

Willie Wilson ran for mayor in 2015 and 2019; traveled the country as part of a long-shot campaign for president in 2016, where he appeared on the ballot in a handful of states; and challenged U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin in 2020. Originally from Louisiana, Wilson ran away from home with just an elementary education and moved to Chicago, where he owned several McDonald's franchises and started a medical supplies company. He is known for "Singsation," a gospel program, and for giving away cash and checks to Chicagoans to help them buy gas, groceries or pay their property taxes.

Age: 74
Born: Gilbert, Louisiana
Personal: Married to Janette Wilson
Education: Dropped out of grade school
Neighborhood: Downtown
Current job: Founder and CEO of Omar Medical Supplies
Government experience: None
Political experience: Wilson finished a distant third in the 2015 mayor's race and fourth in 2019.
Campaign slogan: "Let's rebuild Chicago together"
Campaign website: electwilliewilson.com

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Schools

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mutual acrimony, Lightfoot recently pointed a finger at Johnson during a meeting with the Tribune Editorial Board and accused the CTU of bringing “chaos” to Chicago schools.

Whoever becomes mayor for the next four years will face enormous challenges and a daunting transition from a school board selected by City Hall to one elected by voters.

As a result of action by state lawmakers in 2021, the Chicago Board of Education will become a 21-member hybrid panel in two years, with 10 members elected to four-year terms in the 2024 general election and 11 members, including the board president, appointed by the mayor. It would transition to a fully elected board by 2027.

Other issues include what to do with expensive, underused or vacant buildings, how to reverse years of enrollment decline, and ensuring stability for a system with deeply strained finances. Then there’s the matter of the union’s contract, which expires in 2024 and whose renewal risks another protracted fight.

It all could add up to one of CPS’ biggest inflection points. Daniel Anello, CEO of the advocacy group Kids First Chicago, said the next mayor will have power to steer the city in ways that can help or hurt its public schools, even with less direct control over CPS policy.

“We’ve had declining enrollment for almost 20 years and there’s no sign of it really slowing, and the root causes of it are the Black exodus, a slowing of Latinx immigration into the city, and declining birthrates. There just aren’t enough kids for the schools,” Anello said. “You have school buildings that are massive with too few students in them to fill the whole building, and yet some of those schools are functional educationally. How does the city solve that? How does the city think about changing the exodus of people leav-

ing? And how does the city get more people to come to Chicago?”

Financial woes

As the district approved its \$9.4 billion budget, leaders were urged to think ahead to when federal COVID-19 relief funds expire in 2024.

Placing added pressure: The city has started shifting costs off its books and onto CPS, a move Lightfoot adopted as a way to balance her budgets. An October report prepared for the district noted that the necessary untangling of the two entities ahead of the school board transition “creates additional uncertainties and risks, both for CPS’ operating budget and for the finances of its students and their families.”

CPS was already weighed down by a heavy debt burden. The costs now on the district’s balance sheet include \$175 million for nonteacher pensions in 2022 and nearly \$30 million per year for crossing guards and school police.

Every mayoral candidate has said securing more funding from Springfield would be a top priority. CPS is more than \$1 billion per year below a state-set funding target based on student need. Candidates Paul Vallas, a former CEO of CPS, and Ja’Mal Green, a community activist, have called for an audit to determine how much money is being spent in the classroom.

“If the money really follows the kids to the classroom, and we know for a fact that only 60% of the money does, then we’re gonna get more social workers, we’re gonna get more mental health counselors, we’re gonna get smaller class sizes,” Vallas said at a January forum.

State Rep. Kambium “Kam” Buckner, another mayoral candidate, has said he’s uniquely positioned to get money out of state lawmakers and would shift the city’s public school funding model from being solely student enrollment-based and would install a nurse, social worker and librarian at each campus.



Chicago Teachers Union President Stacy Davis Gates joins faculty members at a strike rally at the University of Illinois at Chicago campus on Jan. 17. Mayoral candidate Brandon Johnson stands behind her. **E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Most candidates have also said funding should be based on need, not enrollment.

U.S. Rep. Jesús “Chuy” García, another candidate, has called the CPS budget allocation from Springfield to be doubled. He backs another attempt to “establish a fairer tax system” in Illinois to support schools, an allusion to Gov. J.B. Pritzker’s failed 2020 graduated income tax bid.

“I truly understand how urgent it is to properly fund our schools,” García said at a recent forum. “We need to move away from our over-reliance on property taxes, which is causing so much great harm, including in Chicago displacement of people who live in or near gentrifying areas. How do we do this? We can work with the General Assembly.”

Lightfoot echoed García during a recent forum, saying, “I’m not going to rest” until the state ups its contribution to CPS.

“We’ve got to get more money from Springfield, bottom line,” Lightfoot said. “Their obligation is to make sure that our public school system is fully funded, and they don’t get it. They think that the work that was done

in the prior administration is good enough. It’s not.”

School closings

In September, Buckner stood before columns of boarded-up windows at the former Laura S. Ward Elementary School, which was shut during the district’s mass school closings in 2013. The West Side campus was quiet, with few cars and pedestrians passing by as he spoke from a makeshift lectern.

“Nearly a decade later, it remains vacant and closed. Nothing could be a stronger example of failed leadership, failed policy and failing our children,” Buckner said. Though he noted the schools were closed under Emanuel, Buckner said Lightfoot “let them fester” and criticized her for “an apathy-laden administration.”

Buckner pushed a bill through the legislature that placed a moratorium on school closings until 2025. The provision was meant to give officials time to work out plans for low-enrollment buildings. Buckner argued the city hasn’t taken advantage of that time to address a

major challenge. Shutting buildings is controversial, and so is choosing a replacement.

Asked how she would prepare for that deadline, Lightfoot sidestepped the question.

“I’m not going to skip ahead years from now on a process that I don’t know what the result will be,” Lightfoot said. “But what I can tell you is, we will never do anything when it comes to an individual school ... where we are not deeply engaged with the residents of those communities.”

The mayor’s answer reflects the deep sensitivities around the issue of closing schools and then reusing the buildings. The mayor once proposed using closed schools as a training ground for police officers and is working on a plan to house migrants in a South Side school, two proposals that generated fierce pushback.

Challenger Willie Wilson, a business owner, blamed crime and high taxes for enrollment decline and empty buildings, saying that reducing both would welcome back families. He’s said he would “close some

of those schools down that have 10% or 25% capacity” and “sell them” or “open some up as trade schools.”

Ald. Roderick Sawyer, 6th, also on the Feb. 28 ballot for mayor, has said the district needs to make tough choices on empty schools, though he didn’t commit to closing any. Other candidates have been less open about their plans.

Elected school board

Lightfoot campaigned on an elected board but then dropped the idea, with legislators enacting the change over her objections. She has not detailed how she might engage the future board, and instead continues to argue it’s not too late to change the law to shrink the board’s size from the planned 21 members. She’s said repeatedly that number is “unwieldy.”

“I’m not giving up,” she told reporters in mid-January. “The largest elected school board is Miami-Dade and it has nine. The largest appointed school board is New York City. It has 13. This makes no sense.”

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Students walk the hallways Nov. 2 at Corliss Early College STEM High School. BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

board's size is a winnable goal is another question. Aside from winning the Chicago casino in Springfield, Lightfoot has not had significant success with state legislators. She also has a famously strained relationship with Senate President Don Harmon and tensions with Pritzker.

Even though it's well on its way to fruition, much about the elected school board remains to be sorted out, including the shape of its districts and any campaign finance limits or curbs on the influence of labor or other interest groups.

If he becomes mayor, Vallas said he would not hesitate to get involved in school board elections to support and oppose candidates.

"I'm not afraid of more democracy, and if you're going to have an elected school board, then it's important for the mayor to get engaged in school board elections if they want to have influence," he said at a forum this month.

Enrollment

Pre-COVID, CPS reported more than half of district-

run schools tracked for capacity were considered "underutilized." Enrollment has declined from about 400,000 students a decade ago to just over 320,000 for this school year.

At a January forum, candidate Sophia King, the 4th Ward alderman, floated the idea of expanding Chicago's "opportunity zones," a term for a federal program that offers tax incentives for investors in low-income neighborhoods. It primarily operates on the city's South and West sides.

"We have to grow the city," King said. "And if we're not a safe community, or have good schools, we're not going to do that."

She also wants to expand selective enrollment schools, install after-school programs to reengage students at every school and bring "back the trades," she said. King is a former teacher and CPS administrator who helped launch the Ariel Community Academy in Kenwood.

"Other than safety ... I think education is our next top priority," King said in response to a lightning-round question on her most important campaign

issue outside of crime. "If we don't have a safe city, and we don't have schools that people can go to, our city is going to continue to decline."

Vallas has one of the deepest histories in education of the mayoral candidates: He was CPS CEO during Mayor Richard M. Daley's "turn-around" process between 1995 and 2001, when charter and selective enrollment schools began to take off. He's argued that he left the district on solid financial footing and "never had a work stoppage."

He's also been superintendent of schools in Philadelphia and in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and of the state-run Recovery School District in New Orleans as the city rebuilt after Hurricane Katrina. He also worked in post-earthquake school systems in Haiti and Chile.

In recent years, Vallas has also been a consultant for the charter school industry, including the Alternative Schools Network, where his work focused on "expanding education to students who have dropped out," according to his campaign, and with Charter School

Renewal, now called the School Improvement Partnership. There, he "helped locate and find strong leaders in the education sector" for "potential jobs as principals, teachers, directors and administrators," his campaign said.

Vallas has called for Chicago families to have "100% choice" in where they send their children to school, saying in a campaign video that the issue is "the unfinished business of the American Civil Rights Movement."

In a guest blog post on former Tribune columnist John Kass' website, Vallas supported providing direct funding via vouchers "for parents to use at the school of their choice. It also means empowering the community to choose local school models that best suits their needs."

His stance has led to Johnson accusing Vallas of being the "privatizer-in-chief" and saying it was "morally bankrupt" for Vallas to speak on public education. Vallas has scoffed at that attack.

"We have children who are prisoners in their own community" because of lack of school choice, Vallas said.

Labor troubles

Under Lightfoot, Chicago schools have seen three teacher work stoppages amid disputes over the union contract and COVID reopening. Since Stacy Davis Gates was elected union president last year, the relationship between the union and city leaders has shown so signs of thawing.

While Lightfoot and the union blame each other for the conflict, Buckner recently said, "It doesn't seem that both entities came to the table with good faith." If elected, Buckner said he would begin negotiations over the union's next contract almost immediately.

"I won't do it by proxy, I won't do it by tweet. I'll do it myself if I have to from my kitchen table, because we have not provided any stability or any cadence that is helpful to teachers, parents and students in this district," Buckner said.

The district could be on the verge of another strike in 2024, a point some candidates may seize on. Vallas, for instance, recently responded to criticism from Johnson by arguing that he should be called "three-strike Johnson," in reference to recent work stoppages by the teachers' union.

King had her own bundle of incentives for new educators like interest-free home loans. "Teachers are leaving now faster than we can keep them," King said at a forum. "They're the one profession where we throw everything at their feet that we're unable to resolve and ask them to do that. They need that incentive."

Green said addressing teacher shortages is key to making sure students get a good education. He said he would do so by making community college free as well as offering new teachers help with the down payment and closing costs if they want to buy a home. He also has promised to expand universal prekindergarten to 3-year-olds, a costly proposition.

a long history as a teacher union's leader, he has yet to release a full plan for the city's schools.

CTU has focused on broader social issues for more than a decade, and that emphasis was underscored at the recent event in West Rogers Park.

Rami Faraj, a CPS teacher and organizer with United Working Families, a group allied closely with CTU, instructed the room to divide into groups and prioritize a set of school-related issues.

From one group, priorities included more social services, affordable housing, student-based budgeting, bilingual education, fewer standardized tests and protection of teacher pensions.

The demands were met with nods and snaps from others in the room, including Johnson.

"Why do we have to fight for these things?" Faraj asked. "Why don't we already have these things in place?"

One woman, Celeste Esquivel, answered decisively: "Capitalism and white supremacy."

Another CPS teacher, Praise Lee, followed up by blaming policies stretching back to Republican President George W. Bush's No Child Left Behind Act placing outsize importance on testing instead of student enrichment.

"I think it's a long history of priorities that have happened via politics, but for many reasons, right?" Lee said. "The priorities just have not been there, but we know because we're on the ground, right? We're doing the work."

As the conversation progressed that evening, CPS teacher Nora Flanagan remarked, "Sorry, I'm getting really mad."

Faraj responded, "You should be very mad."

Johnson stood and observed. He would not go on to speak again, but when the topic returned to the election, an earlier message of his was evoked by an organizer, Isaac Krantz-Perlman, to great applause: "Who better to run for mayor than a teacher?"

'You should be very mad'

Although Johnson has



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OPINION

NEWS QUIZ

Test your knowledge of the Chicago mayoral candidates

The Tribune Editorial Board has interviewed each of the nine candidates for mayor. But how well do you know everyone in the race? Test your knowledge with our quiz before you head to the polls on Feb. 28. More details on the candidates can be found in our newsroom’s coverage of the mayoral race.



Buckner



García



Green



Johnson



King



Lightfoot



Sawyer



Vallas



Wilson

1. Which candidate is known for gas giveaways?
A. Lori Lightfoot
B. Paul Vallas
C. Willie Wilson
D. Roderick Sawyer

2. How many candidates were born in the city of Chicago?
A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 4

3. Which candidate grew up in a small town in Ohio?
A. Paul Vallas
B. Willie Wilson
C. Brandon Johnson
D. Lori Lightfoot

4. How many candidates have served in the Illinois General Assembly?
A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 4

5. Which candidate is a close friend of the Obama family?
A. Sophia King
B. Roderick Sawyer
C. Willie Wilson
D. Lori Lightfoot

6. How many candidates have political experience working in New Orleans?
A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 4

7. Which candidate played football at the University of Illinois?
A. Roderick Sawyer
B. Ja'Mal Green
C. Kam Buckner
D. Jesús “Chuy” García

8. Which candidates ran against Lori Lightfoot for mayor in 2019?
A. Willie Wilson, Ja'Mal Green and Paul Vallas
B. Ja'Mal Green, Sophia King and Paul Vallas
C. Paul Vallas, Kam Buckner and Ja'Mal Green
D. Willie Wilson, Paul Vallas and Roderick Sawyer

9. Which candidate once led a hunger strike to get a new school built?
A. Ja'Mal Green
B. Sophia King
C. Kam Buckner
D. Jesús “Chuy” García

10. Which candidate is one of 10 siblings?
A. Willie Wilson
B. Brandon Johnson
C. Lori Lightfoot
D. Paul Vallas

11. Which candidate led a successful campaign against Chase Bank’s lending practices?
A. Ja'Mal Green
B. Roderick Sawyer
C. Paul Vallas
D. Sophia King

12. How many candidates are currently aldermen?
A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 4

13. Which candidate operated his or her own law firm before going into politics?
A. Lori Lightfoot
B. Paul Vallas
C. Sophia King
D. Roderick Sawyer

14. Which candidates were photographed praying with Willie Wilson after their joint interview with the Tribune Editorial Board?
A. Roderick Sawyer, Paul Vallas and Kam Buckner
B. Paul Vallas, Kam Buckner and Lori Lightfoot
C. Roderick Sawyer and Sophia King
D. Paul Valla and Kam Buckner

15. Which candidate has worked for school districts in Haiti and Chile?
A. Brandon Johnson
B. Sophia King
C. Paul Vallas
D. Kam Buckner

1. C; 2. D (Kam Buckner, Ja'Mal Green, Roderick Sawyer and Paul Vallas); 3. D; 4. B (Jesús “Chuy” García and Kam Buckner); 5. A; 6. B (Paul Vallas and Kam Buckner); 7. C; 8. A; 9. D; 10. B; 11. A; 12. B (Sophia King and Roderick Sawyer); 13. D; 14. A; 15. C

Answer key

0-4 correct answers: Come on! The future of Chicago is in your hands.
5-10 correct answers: Study up!
11-15 correct answers: You are ready to head to the polls.

What your results mean

Can Chicago see fewer than 400 homicides? 4 things must happen.

By Arne Duncan

On Feb. 28, Chicago voters pick their next mayor from a field of nine candidates. If no candidate gets more than 50% of the vote, the two top vote-getters face a runoff April 4. After three violent years, including more than 3,500 shootings and 700 homicides last year, polls show crime and violence are, by far, the top issues.

As voters weigh their options, Chicago CRED can share insights from an analysis conducted using a review of data and research, interviews with local leaders from the South and West sides, meetings with participants and an examination of best practices in New York and Los Angeles. Both cities have achieved dramatic drops in gun violence over the last 25 years, while Chicago has remained stubbornly high. Based on the analysis, to bring the annual number of homicides below 400, which has not occurred since 1965, four things must happen:

- 1. We must scale up violence prevention programs that directly engage with the highest-risk individuals.
- 2. We must cut off the pipeline of high-risk youths into street life.
- 3. We must strategically rebuild high-crime communities, targeting the blocks with the most crime.
- 4. And we need much more effective policing.

Items one, two and three require significantly more public and private funding. Item four requires a bigger commitment to drive change in the Chicago Police Department.

The mayoral candidates are all talking about crime. Several have released crime plans. Some promise to address root causes, such as lack of employment, housing and education. Some promise to hire more police. Crime-weary voters should consider the following facts.

Data from the Cook County



A Chicago police evidence technician processes the scene of a fatal shooting on Jan. 6 in the 600 block of South Independence Boulevard. **TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

The bigger challenge is that Chicago needs a credible plan for more effective policing — a complex blend of recruiting, training, deployment, supervision, mental health support and accountability. Absent more effective policing, more police will not make Chicago safer.

state’s attorney’s office shows that only a third of homicides in Chicago over the last 10 years have led to an arrest. And, in the last three years, citywide arrest rates for homicides have declined to 28% in 2022 from 37% in 2020. We’re going in the wrong direction.

For nonfatal shootings, arrest rates are much lower, triggering cycles of retaliation. In the

absence of true justice and meaningful deterrence, we get street justice.

There are at least three contributing factors to our low arrest rates. First, the sheer volume of shootings is overwhelming. Second, no one is accountable. And third, trust levels among people and police are low due to a long history of abuse. Even cooperating witnesses who we know

routinely report negative experiences with police investigators. Until Chicago gets serious about police reform, we will continue to have low arrest and homicide clearance rates, no matter how many detectives we have.

The bigger challenge is that Chicago needs a credible plan for more effective policing — a complex blend of recruiting, training, deployment, supervision, mental health support and accountability. Absent more effective policing, more police will not make Chicago safer. As it is, we have more police per capita than almost every other big city, yet no one feels safe.

As for violence prevention and youth programs, our field also needs to continually improve, build capacity and hold each other accountable for outcomes.

That means closely tracking participants and being transparent about their safety and success.

Research from Northwestern University shows that people enrolled in Chicago CRED are about half as likely to be shot or rearrested as they would be if they had not enrolled. Other violence prevention programs also show promising results. But we can all do better.

The violence prevention field also needs considerably more resources to serve the estimated 21,000 highest-risk individuals in Chicago today and reduce the pipeline of youths heading into the street life. The time for half-measures is over. The next mayor must commit to fund successful violence prevention programs at scale on a permanent basis.

Lastly, a recent Urban Institute study of Chicago shows much more private investment in non-Black communities compared to Black communities. The business community must step up. City initiatives such as INVEST South/West are a tiny slice of the pie compared to what the private sector spends. The business community must also give jobs to more individuals who are at risk. They need to eat, pay rent and support families. If they can’t work in the legal economy, they’ll remain in the illegal economy.

Homicides in Chicago dropped by 14% last year. If we match that decline for each of the next five years and publicly report how we are doing on each of the four strategies outlined above, Chicago will be under 400 homicides for the first time since 1965.

The next mayor of Chicago should unite the city behind this goal. As urban designer Daniel Burnham famously said, “Make no little plans.”

Arne Duncan is a managing partner of Emerson Collective, the founder of Chicago CRED and a former U.S. secretary of education and CEO of Chicago Public Schools.

VINTAGE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Breaking history since 1847



Black Panther Defense Minister Bobby Rush, seated center, talks about the judge who sentenced Panther Chairman Fred Hampton in 1969. Flanking Rush are members of sympathetic organizations, including the Young Patriots, a group mostly comprised of white Appalachians. **STEVE KIPP/CHICAGO TODAY**

FROM BLACK PANTHER TO CONGRESSMAN

Self-proclaimed 1960s revolutionary Bobby Rush changed with the times

By Ron Grossman | Chicago Tribune

Considering his political zigzagging, assigning longtime congressman Bobby Rush his final grade is no mean trick.

A self-proclaimed revolutionary, he worked as a financial planner and insurance salesman. As defense minister of the Black Panthers, he said African Americans needed arms to defend themselves from rogue cops. In Congress, he championed gun control.

Fortunately, the 15-term congressman's contradictions aren't impenetrable. Rush's measure can be taken by comparison with another revolutionary politician. In 1848 Alexandre August Ledru-Rollin, the leader of a revolution in France, was asked why he was chasing after an infuriated Parisian crowd.

"There go the people," he replied. "I must follow them, for I am their leader."

Rush has similarly kept pace with an African American community that is far different from what it was when he stepped into the political spotlight.

Sixty years ago Black leaders didn't dare question the Democratic machine. They quietly accepted the white political bosses' crumbs.

Today, Chicago is led by its third Black mayor. The U.S. has had a Black president.

Rush probably couldn't guess who that would be when he first crossed paths with Barack Obama in 2000 as the young political upstart made a bid for Rush's seat in a largely African American and working-class congressional district.

"Barack Obama went to Harvard and became an educated fool," said Rush during that year's Democratic primary campaign before soundly defeating Obama with more than 60% of the vote.

Obama spoke like the University of Chicago professor that he was. Rush spoke the language of the streets where he was raised, just west of the city's glitzy Gold Coast neighborhood. He attended an integrated grade school and was a Boy Scout.

Money being scarce in his mother's household, he dropped out of high school and joined the Army. He was motivated by President John F. Kennedy's call for young people to devote themselves to public service.

Assigned to an anti-aircraft base in Chicago, he encountered a vocally racist commanding officer from Alabama, then went AWOL when the Rev. Martin Luther King was assassinated in 1968. As the West Side erupted in rioting, he found his way into the Black Panthers. He saw it as an opportunity to do something for desperately poor people abandoned by the city's establishment.

"He was responsible for the party's breakfast program for black school children, a medical program, and a food giveaway plan," the Tribune reported in 1984.

But in 1969 police, under orders from State's Attorney Edward Hanrahan, shot their way into a West Side apartment where Black Panther leader Fred Hampton and another Panther were sleeping, killing both men. The assassination of Hampton, founder of the Panthers' Illinois chapter, left Rush its chairman.

Attempting to cover up the crime, Hanrahan said the occupants shot first. The Tribune bought into the lie, printing a photo of supposed bullet-exit holes in the door. In reality, they were nail heads.

The gruesome affair infuriated the Black community, which came out in mass to defeat Hanrahan's bid for reelection. That demonstrated a potential for reform via the electoral process.

Initially Rush didn't take that route. In 1972 he served six months in prison on a weapons charge, having carried a gun into a police station. But shortly thereafter he left the Panthers.

"We started glorifying thug-gery and drugs," he told People magazine. "I don't repudiate any of my involvement in the Panther party — it was part of my maturing."

When Harold Washington, until then a machine loyalist, mounted an independent campaign for mayor in 1983, Rush ran for 2nd Ward alderman. Both won, shocking the city's political establishment.

"A lot of people expected me to walk into the City Council wearing a leather jacket, dark glasses and a bandoleer of shotgun shells on both sides," Rush said. "I'm not like that."

But that's how he appeared in the imaginations of machine



Black Panther Bobby Rush, center, watches as the crime lab checks the house at 2337 Monroe St. in Chicago, where Fred Hampton was shot and killed Dec. 17, 1969. **FRANK BERGER/CHICAGO TODAY**



A pinstriped suit replaced Ald. Bobby Rush's "radical chic" garb of the 1960s, as this 1984 photo shows. "I'm not like that," he said of the militant image he projected as a Black Panther. **JAMES MAYO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**



Bobby Rush, former Black Panther Party leader, and his wife Carolyn, celebrate his win over Ald. William Barnett, 2nd, on April 12, 1983. **QUENTIN DODD/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

aldermen facing their worst nightmare: a Black mayor with a reform agenda. Rush was a sitting target during the Council Wars,

the guerrilla resistance of Washington's opponents that stymied his administration.

When Washington died shortly

"A lot of people expected me to walk into the City Council wearing a leather jacket, dark glasses and a bandoleer of shotgun shells on both sides. I'm not like that."

— Bobby Rush, after he won a seat as 2nd Ward alderman

after being reelected to a second term, the machine regained City Hall and Rush was earmarked for political limbo. He also mounted a quixotic campaign to preserve the late mayor's heritage. It was provoked by a School of the Art Institute student who painted a portrait of Washington wearing women's underwear.

With two other Black aldermen and accompanied by police officers, Rush took the painting off the museum's wall in 1988. "Mirth & Girth," as the painting was titled, suffered a small tear during the fracas.

A judge found the action "a crude display of government censorship" that violated the student's First Amendment rights and the city settled with the student for \$95,000 in damages. By 1992 Rush had his eye on the congressional seat held by Charles Hayes, a Black union official and civil rights activist.

Saying Hayes had been "close to a nonentity" in Congress, the Tribune endorsed Rush. On the eve of the primary, a breaking news story revealed that Hayes had bounced 716 checks at the House of Representatives bank.

Hayes counterpunched, alleging that Rush had stiffed his ex-wife the child support due her.

"Not one child has gone hungry because of what we did in the House on these bank overdrafts, as you call them," Hayes said.

Rush won the argument at the polls.

"Being sworn into Congress after almost being murdered by police officers, that's a giant step," Rush said in January 1993, noting that "25 years ago he thought he would be dead by now."

For the next three decades Rush did the steady stream of grunt work that comes with the job: serving on committees, drafting prospective legislation, making you-scratch-my-back, I-scratch-yours deals.

Yet he occasionally drew upon theatrical skills honed in his Black Panther days. In 1995 he led a march down Clark Street demanding that Gregory Becker, an off-duty cop who killed a homeless man, not be let off with a slap on the wrist.

Then Rush hurried back to Washington and flipped a switch to register his vote on an issue of the day, as the Tribune noted. Becker was indicted and served prison time.

When Trayvon Martin was killed in Florida, Rush noted that the self-appointed security guard who shot the 17-year-old African American assumed he was a thief because of the cut of his clothes.

"Racial profiling has to stop," Rush, dressed in a hoodie, said in the House of Representatives on March 28, 2012. "Just because someone wears a hoodie does not make them a hoodlum."

He was gavelled out of order for violating the rule against wearing a hat in the House.

By the time Rush announced he wouldn't run for a 16th term, some of his most cherished projects had been realized, such as the first federal legislation against lynching. Others were languishing, including an inquiry into FBI surveillance that he and other dissidents were subject to in the 1960s, without a judge's authorization.

He explained his taking leave of Washington variously. Having belatedly taken a doctoral degree, he was pastoring at a Chicago church, thus returning to community organizing.

But he also offered a highly personal riff on the well-worn mantra of retiring politicians: wanting to spend more time with family.

"I don't want to be an historical figure to my grandchildren," he told the Sun-Times. Someone they'd learn about in school, or maybe see in a televised biography.

"I want them to know me on an intimate level, know something about me, and I want to know something about them."

Have an idea for Vintage Chicago Tribune? Share it with Ron Grossman and Marianne Mather at rgrossman@chicago.tribune.com and mmather@chicagotribune.com.

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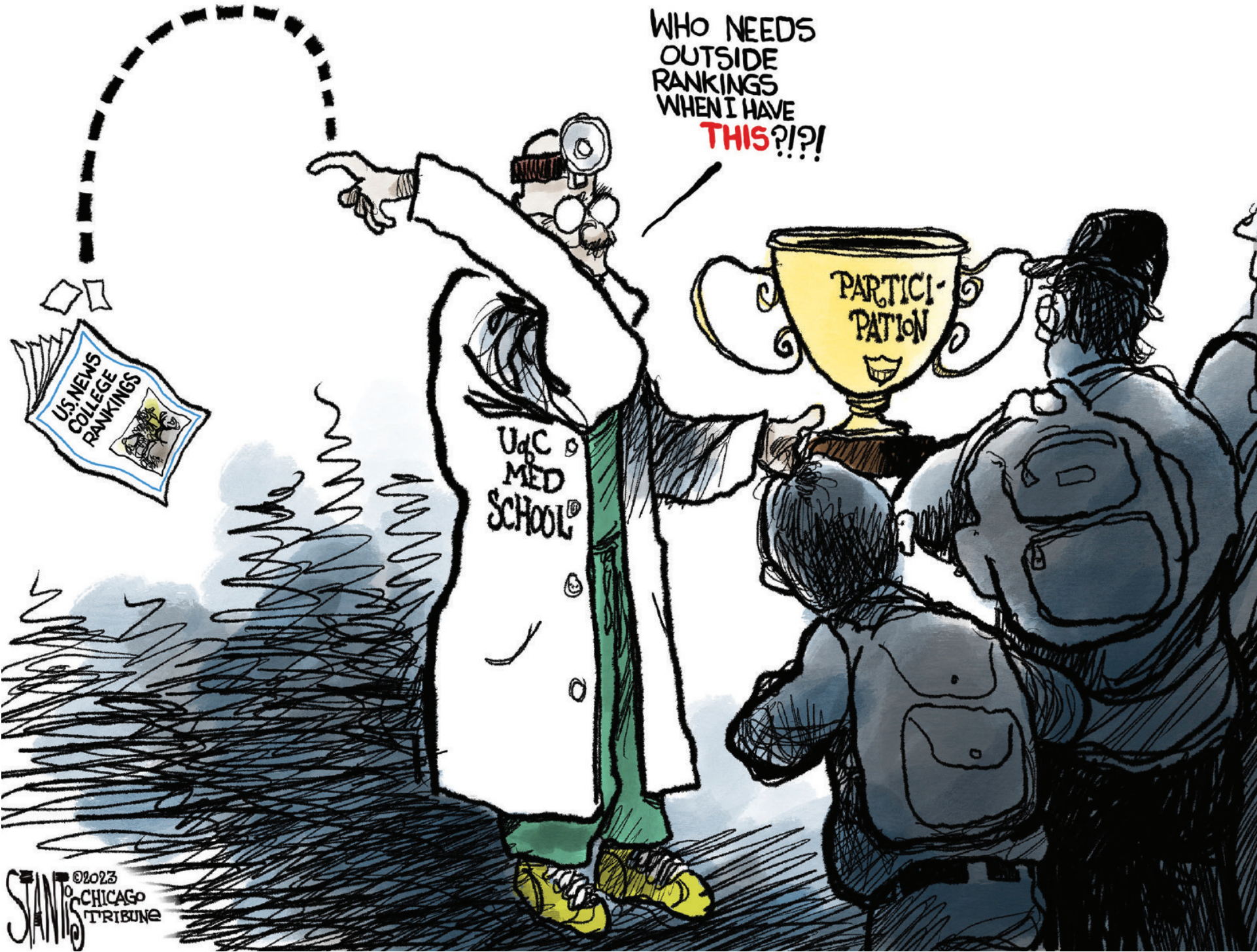
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EDITORIALS



SCOTT STANTIS

UChicago can disdain US News rankings, but costly med schools shouldn't be judging themselves

On Thursday, the University of Chicago's Pritzker School of Medicine announced it was withdrawing from the popular rankings published by U.S. News and World Report, the former news-weekly that has carved out a niche ranking individual programs and schools at colleges and universities, as well as entire institutions. The decision wasn't quite the profile in courage that the university implied. There was plenty of cover.

Within the last few days, such other high-ranked med schools as the University of Pennsylvania and Columbia and Stanford universities also have said they will no longer provide U.S. News with the data it uses for its rankings. They in turn had been sheltered by Harvard University's top-ranked medical school, which announced its own refusal to provide the data on Jan. 17.

The revolt by these prestigious medical schools only took place after high-end law schools had put together the same kind of revolt last fall, as spearheaded by the top-ranked Yale Law School. The reasoning? You're unlikely to be fully enlightened by the Pritzker School of Medicine's jargon-filled statement: "This decision is based on our judgment that the current methodology raises deep concerns about inequity perpetuated by the misuse of metrics that fail to capture the quality or outcomes of medical education for those who most need these data: Applicants to medical school."

Got that? In essence, the University of Chicago, like its



Students of the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine at their Match Day event on the campus in 2018. JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

peers, is arguing that the rankings perpetuate elitism, which makes these elite institutions uncomfortable (in public, at least) and, these elites say, encourages schools to enroll students with the highest grades and test scores, since that is what the rankings reward, at the expense of qualities like (to quote the dean of the U. Penn School) "creativity, passion, resilience, and empathy."

Sure, all those softer qualities are very important. But all things being equal, most of us going under a surgeon's knife would also like to think the doctor had good grades and test scores too. We know plenty of fine doctors who manage to embody all of these things, which is how they got into a top medical school in the first place.

When did grades and test

scores become so debased? And is this a way to quietly reduce the number of Asian American medical students? It sure could be put to work in that direction.

There's something else at play here. Whatever the issues of "inequity" (although it's a squishy argument to say that the current rankings promote that anyway, as distinct from providing beacons for minority success), the universities also dislike the rankings because they cannot control them. They're an external judgment. Academics always hate that. They prefer peer reviews and, trust us, that is not because peer reviews are more reliable when it comes to the objective application of metrics.

Evidence of that can be found in what the Pritzker deans have proposed as a replacement for

medical students wondering where to apply: the Chicago medical school, the Tribune reported, now "will share 'essential information' on its admissions website."

Great. So we replace an independent judgment with additional marketing material put out by the school being judged, which is unlikely to highlight anything that shows it in a less than positive light. What could possibly go wrong with that?

Peer under the hood here and you find a lot of desire for control and a resistance to market realities. Given free rein, the top medical schools will operate more and more like a cartel, moving as a block.

Faculty and students at top medical schools are proud to work where they work, as well they should be. Whatever their administrators disavow in public, those rankings are not going away. They'll merely be whispered among the elite, thus denying prospective medical students important information as they plan to take on the debt that such an education requires. And, despite what the schools say, those from poorer backgrounds will suffer the most without an independent source of information.

None of this is to say that U.S. News rankings are not flawed. In fact, we've long been troubled by their overreliance on the self-reporting of data and on corrupt peer reviewing. But that's a matter for U.S. News editors and their readers.

In many ways, the publication now will have to face up to

what those of us in daily newspapering have known for decades: journalists have to do their own data-crunching work and rely as little as possible on the input of those being judged. If we are doing our job, there is a good chance they will be irritated by the findings and refuse to cooperate. Just like City Hall.

A lack of that awareness long has been one of the flaws in the rankings, and U.S. News now has a chance to end any and all of its cozy relationships with elite schools.

But rankings of universities and their programs are important in a competitive marketplace where schools charge colossal amounts of money for tuition. They provide something different, and far more valuable, from promotional copy on websites, where every medical school looks like it suffers from the Lake Wobegon effect: everyone's achievements are above average.

One final note for Chicago's medical school. Even as its peer law schools kvetched about having to live with these competitive outside rankings using factors with which it did not agree, Chicago's superb law school (ranked number three in the nation) didn't join the crowd. Instead, it said that the rankings were one of several factors and data points that potential students should consider.

Precisely. Given our great university's stands on free speech and independent thinking, the medical school should have taken the same stance as U. of C.'s law professors did.

ABOUT IMMIGRANT LAYOFFS

Despite the often cold language about "market corrections" or "rightsizing" that accompanies them, mass layoffs are a collection of individual little catastrophes for the people affected by them. Such is the case for workers caught in rounds of tens of thousands of layoffs announced in the last several weeks by tech sector giants such as Amazon, Google and Facebook parent Meta.

For many, it will represent a period of stress and uncertainty from which they'll likely recover. For workers on immigrant visas, however, it might represent a point of no return.

The term "temporary worker" is a bit misleading, creating a public conception of foreign workers flitting into the country for a few months and then leaving. In reality, many workers on visas like the H-1B are longtime residents who've built lives in the U.S., stuck in interminable residency backlog that our own broken immigration system has created, or onetime students who've gone through years of U.S. higher education in pursuit of well-paid jobs and the American Dream.

They might have done everything right for years and years, but that doesn't matter once a layoff comes and they

have a mere 60 days to find alternative employment or lose status and be forced out of the country. With swaths of the tech industry now engaged in shedding of workers, a significant portion will inevitably run out the clock. ...

Meanwhile, countries like Canada are rolling out the red carpet while we make life complicated and unpredictable for workers with specialized skills. Congress must adapt, or risk having the era of U.S. technical supremacy slowly come to a close.

New York Daily News Editorial Board

OPINION



House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, left, and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer arrive Wednesday at the U.S. Capitol. ANNA MONEYMAKER/GETTY

How a GOP tax cut plan became a gift to Democrats



Clarence Page

Remember how cameras followed Rep. Kevin McCarthy up and down the aisles of the House as he tried to string together enough deals during 15 rounds of voting to be elected House speaker?

The California Republican gathered enough votes to win the post — and now he seems to be running almost as fast to back away from some of those deals.

One particularly problematic example is the proposed Fair Tax Act, which is not to be confused with the failed Illinois Fair Tax. The proposed Illinois state constitutional amendment on the 2020 ballot would have changed the state's income tax system from a flat tax to a graduated income tax.

The proposed federal measure, a radical product of the GOP's right-wing Freedom Caucus, would abolish the Internal Revenue Service, do away with income, payroll, estate and gift

taxes and replace the income tax with a 30% national sales tax.

Wow. Are you as gobsmacked by that 30% figure as I am? Rep. Earl “Buddy” Carter, the Georgia Republican who introduced the bill, argues on his website that the 30% is really more like 23%, since the tax is included in the purchase price.

Right. I'm all in favor of simplifying the annual torture that filing income taxes puts me through, especially if it also lowers taxes. But, since I was not a math major in school, I identify as too math-illiterate to know whether this bill will save me money or take me to the cleaners.

But, wait, there's more. To further sweeten the deal, the bill includes a monthly check, which Carter calls a “prebate,” that would go out to every registered household to cover the consumption tax spent on necessities up to the federal poverty level.

Thank you, sir. But already this tax simplification plan is sounding too complicated for me.

One group appears to be particularly delighted by this Republican proposal: Democrats.

Democratic leaders mocked McCarthy's apparent cave-in to Trump-

aligned MAGA Republicans with various concessions in exchange for their votes.

They're also expected to work it into their continuing theme that Republicans are endangering Medicare and Social Security and, more generally, are out of touch with regular Americans.

The bumpy launch of the proposed Fair Tax Act reveals another troubling trend for the Republicans. The small-government “party of ideas” GOP that we saw in the 1980s and '90s under President Ronald Reagan and House Speaker Newt Gingrich lost its intellectual steam in Trump's MAGA era.

Instead, it has become more dominated by hard-right extremist culture warriors and Trump wannabes, rejecting old-school bipartisan gestures across the aisle as some form of ideological treason.

The result is such sights as McCarthy campaigning through 15 feverish rounds of voting and deal-making to cobble together enough votes to become speaker, during which he promised Republicans that he would hold a hearing on the national sales tax measure, among other promises. More

recently, he appears to be backpedaling away from it.

When he was questioned, for example, by CNN's Manu Raju in a hallway as to whether he supported the Fair Tax Act, he responded simply, “No” and kept on walking, swiftly away.

That may not matter much in the long run, since the Fair Tax idea has only spotty support among Republicans and virtually no chance of passing in the Senate. Even anti-tax hawks such as Grover Norquist, founder of Americans for Tax Reform, wrote recently in the Atlantic that the bill was “a free gift to the Democrats.”

I don't have to be an economic wizard to see how tacking a 30% — or even 23% — tax or surcharge onto the price of goods or services puts a drag on consumer sales and wallets. As the late Republican congressman and policy wonk Jack Kemp used to say, “If you want less of something, tax it,” he said. “If you want more of something, subsidize it.”

The same might also be said of those who want more votes.

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VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Our gun violence problem

This is the United States, where there is *never* a time when a letter about mass shootings is not timely.

Citizens of the United States rank in the top 10 among the citizens of the world's nations in their risk of a firearm-related death. They rank No. 1 among developed nations.

This is the case for two reasons. The first is that a segment of American society has an irrational insistence on having a primitive, anachronistic right that the rest of the developed world *has shown that it does not need*. The second is that the Founding Fathers could not foresee such bizarre behavior among citizens, nor could they foresee the introduction of weapons with lethal capabilities far beyond what they could imagine at the time, so they gave this segment the ability to block the majority from doing the sensible thing. The source of the problem is that simple.

The distrust of government that the political right now cultivates was planted decades ago by the National Rifle Association and by firearms manufacturers that had products to promote. Under our free system, they could do that, regardless of the impacts on the freedom of the rest of us.

We may be boxed in legally by the Second Amendment and by sympathetic judges at a high level, but another amendment, the First, says that I have a right to call out who is really responsible for the seemingly nonstop carnage in this country, so I do what I can do.

— Curt Fredrikson, Mokena

Where military-style rifles belong

In the debate over the Illinois assault weapon ban, many have been arguing that it's inconsistent or wrong to prevent young adults younger than 21 to possess these weapons when they can join the military and are permitted to use them and other weapons that are far more dangerous.

There is a huge difference between civilian young adults possessing and using these weapons and young adults in the military who are permitted to use them.

First off, young adults in the military are highly disci-

plined and highly trained in the use of those weapons. Second, young adults in the military aren't permitted to use those weapons at will but only when the military permits the weapons to be used.

For example, they can't take those weapons with them when they are on leave and they can't freely play around with these weapons when they are in the barracks or casually carry them around with them on the base, nor can they carry these weapons in their personal vehicles and go anywhere they want with them.

For these reasons and more, *military-style* weapons should be limited to that very place — the military.

— Jerry Austin, Dolton

Jurors should be paid more

I believe we can more adequately compensate jurors for their service; \$10 a day plus money for transportation is not enough. (This is in Kane County, but other counties are not much better at compensation.)

Jury duty is important to our justice system. It is a fundamental right for defendants to have a trial by their peers. Jurors help make court decisions.

Not all employers cover jury duty as part of their pay. There are independent contractors who lose their pay for the day. Stay-at-home parents may not be able to afford to pay a sitter. You could not even pay (at minimum wage) for an hour of babysitting with what jurors make.

Judges, bailiffs, attorneys and expert witnesses are all paid properly. We could be more equitable. Can't we do a better job of compensating our jurors?

— Alison Dunmore, Huntley

Cubs will win more than Sox

It's true, as Paul Sullivan writes in his “In the Wake of the News” column (“Sox fans do have some reason to be optimistic,” Jan. 22), that we Sox fans tend to be edgy and don't mince words. So I have to say that few, if any, of the 10 reasons he advances lead us to feel hopeful about the 2023 season.

One reason Sullivan cites involves a bobble-headed doll promotion, and another is two new bars on the upper level at Guaranteed Rate Field. Is he kidding? The other eight

reasons can best be characterized as big “ifs” — nothing more.

The White Sox have chosen not to make a major free-agent move, Andrew Benintendi notwithstanding. In any event, a corner outfielder who hit only five home runs last season is not going to make a major difference for this franchise.

The White Sox will not be any more successful this year than they were last year. They haven't improved enough against the other contenders in the American League Central division. It's not easy for this White Sox fan to say, but the Cubs have used the offseason more effectively to improve their chances in 2023 than the White Sox have.

Bottom line? The Cubs will win more games in 2023 than the White Sox.

— Chet Alexander, Alsip

Jennifer Coolidge on ‘Frasier’

I enjoyed reading about actor Jennifer Coolidge being honored by Harvard University in the January 25 Tribune (“Theatrical group to honor Coolidge”). It listed so many of her great roles in movies and TV. But absent was a mention of her role on the TV show “Frasier” as Fred-erica, a physical therapist. Her made-up German accent, her comedic timing and her physical demeanor made her brief appearance so memorable. She was perfect for the part.

“Frasier” had other great actors perfectly cast including Nathan Lane as a small-time crook, Harris Yulin as an implied crime boss, “Star Trek's” Patrick Stewart as an opera conductor and many, many others.

Some of us who grew up in the 1950s and '60s remember the days when movie and Broadway actors thought TV was “beneath” them. But some of the best actors have a great legacy of entertainment with their TV roles.

— Steven Cooper, La Grange Park

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OBITUARIES

LARRY ROGERS SR.

Trailblazing attorney, mastermind in court ‘a giant, a humble man’

By Deanease Williams-Harris
Chicago Tribune

Larry Rogers Sr. devoted his life to the Black community, his family and the passion of building a more equitable justice system in this United States, said his longtime friend, U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin. Rogers was one of his role models, he said.

Rogers, 75, died Jan. 19 after a battle with cancer, his family said.

Durbin called Rogers a hero who blazed a trail for generations of lawyers and helped the Black community defend its most vulnerable members.

“Last week, Chicago lost a legend,” Durbin said in a congressional resolution. “His name was Larry Rogers Sr. And over the past many years, I have been lucky to count him as a friend, as well as a role model.”

Rogers’ path began when he was 14 and his father died, making Rogers’ mother the sole breadwinner for him and six of his siblings, Durbin said.

He grew up on the Far South Side in the Rose-land community, while his mother worked two jobs to support her children and pay their Catholic school education. His mother’s work ethic and belief in a good education inspired Rogers to become a leader in his field and community.

Rogers went on to excel in academics and was accepted into law school after graduating college, but was forced to put his legal career on hold due to a health issue. Like his mother, he couldn’t slow down because he had a family to feed. So once leaving law school, he started working three jobs to pay the bills.

One of those jobs was at a gas station across the street from Comiskey Park, the White Sox’s ballpark, where Guaranteed



Family members of trial attorney Larry Rogers Sr. gather around his casket at Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church on Saturday in Chicago. JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



Larry Rogers Sr. talks to the media on Jan. 14, 2002, when he was representing Jesse Jackson Jr. TED S. WARREN/AP

Rate Field is today. During this job, Rogers began a friendship with a regular customer named Joe Power, a young attorney. Power would encourage Rogers

to complete law school and eventually would recruit Rogers to the law firm where he worked, Durbin said.

Their friendship and professional relationship

spanned 40 years, and the two lawyers founded a personal law and medical malpractice firm, Power Rogers LLP.

Rogers would emerge as a mastermind in the courtroom. In 1985, he landed the largest personal injury victory in Illinois history in a multimillion-dollar verdict for families who had been wronged by a baby formula company that sold chloride-deficient formula affecting the intellectual development of babies. Years after that victory, he won a \$55 million verdict for a woman who’d suffered brain damage during a brain procedure. In four decades, he won major verdicts for victims of medical malpractice, motor vehicle negligence and aviation accidents.

Rogers paid his success forward in mentorship,

guidance, and support for African American students and attorneys who had long been excluded from the legal world, Durbin said.

After he served as the president of the Cook County Bar Association and the first African American president of the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, he was named one of the top 500 trial lawyers in the nation.

Above all, Rogers was a dedicated and loving father and grandfather, Durbin said. His list of accolades influenced his children to pursue their passions with diligence and determination, he added. His son Larry Rogers Jr. is the second-ever African American president of the ITLA. Like his dad, Larry Jr. also became the president of the CCBA and a partner at Power Rogers.

In total, there are three

generations of legal professionals in the Rogers family. Besides Larry Jr., there’s his brother Dom, an injury attorney, and his sister Ann Marie, a court reporter. Additionally, Larry Sr.’s stepson Frederic, niece, Carmen, nephew Sean and grandson Trevor are all lawyers.

Rogers was an avid sports fan, holding season tickets for the Chicago Bulls and Bears, Durbin said. Rogers was the captain of his Sea Ray sports boat.

“Rogers would often invite friends and family to join him on vacations to Lake Michigan, Florida, and even the Bahamas — a testament to his generosity and eagerness to spread joy to those he loved,” Durbin said.

Thursday afternoon, his son Larry Jr. spoke of his father’s love for his family.

“He was the epitome of what a man should be in his professional and private life,” Rogers Jr. said. “He loved seeing his children and grandchildren laugh and happy.”

Rogers Jr. and his sister, Anne Marie, spoke of their father’s dedication to his community.

“He was a giant, a humble man, and he was my superman,” his daughter said.

His survivors include a life partner, Pam Anderson, his children and stepchildren, Larry Jr., Dom, Anne Marie and Frederic, nieces, nephews and grandchildren.

A public funeral was held Saturday at Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, with the Rev. Jesse Jackson officiating.

In memorial of Larry Rogers Sr., a gift of scholarship may be made online at <https://give.depaul.edu/LarryRogers>, or by mailing a check payable to DePaul University with “Larry Rogers Endowed Scholarship” in the memo to: DePaul University Office of Advancement, PO Box 6740, Carol Stream, IL 60197-6740.

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON JAN. 29 ...

In 1688, scientist and Christian mystic and theologian Emanuel Swedenborg was born in Stockholm.

In 1737 political writer and pamphleteer Thomas Paine was born in Thetford, England.

In 1820 Britain’s King George III died at Windsor Castle, ending a reign that had seen both the American and French revolutions.

In 1843 the 25th U.S. president, William McKinley, was born in Niles, Ohio.

In 1845 Edgar Allan Poe’s poem “The Raven” was first published, in the New York Evening Mirror.

In 1850 Henry Clay introduced in the Senate a compromise bill on slavery that included the admission of California into the Union as a free state.

In 1860 playwright Anton Chekhov was born in Taganrog, Russia.

In 1861 Kansas became the 34th state of the Union.

In 1880 comedian W.C. Fields was born William Claude Dukenfield in Philadelphia.

In 1900 baseball’s original American League was organized with teams in Chicago, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis,

Kansas City, Minneapolis and Buffalo.

In 1919 the ratification of the 18th Amendment to the Constitution, which launched Prohibition, was certified by Acting Secretary of State Frank L. Polk.

In 1936 Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Walter Johnson, Christy Mathewson and Honus Wagner became the first players to be voted into the new Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y.

In 1954 television personality, entrepreneur and actress Oprah Winfrey was born in Kosciusko, Miss.

In 1958 actors Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward were married. (They remained married until Newman’s death in 2008.)

In 1963 the first members of football’s Hall of Fame — including the Bears’ George Halas, Bronko Nagurski and Red Grange — were named in Canton, Ohio. Also in 1963 poet Robert Frost died in Boston; he was 88.

In 1964 Stanley Kubrick’s nuclear war satire “Dr. Strangelove Or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb” premiered in New York, Toronto and London. Also in 1964 ,the Winter Olympic Games opened in Innsbruck, Austria. Also in 1964 actor Alan Ladd died in Palm Springs, Calif.; he was 50.

In 1975 a bomb exploded inside the U.S. State Department in Washington, causing considerable damage, but injuring no one. (The radical group Weather Underground claimed responsibility.)

In 1992 legendary Chicago blues artist Willie Dixon died in Burbank, Calif.; he was 76.

In 1993 President Bill Clinton told reporters he was ordering the drafting of a formal directive by July 15 to end the longstanding ban on homosexuals in the U.S.

military.

In 1995 the San Francisco 49ers became the first team in NFL history to win five Super Bowl titles, beating the San Diego Chargers, 49-26.

In 1998 a bomb rocked an abortion clinic in Birmingham, Ala., killing Robert Sanderson, an off-duty police officer working as a security guard, and critically injuring Emily Lyons, a nurse. (Eric Rudolph was sentenced in 2005 to four life terms for the clinic bombing and other crimes.)

In 2000 delegates meeting in Montreal reached an international agreement on the trade of genetically modified food and other products.

In 2002, in his first State of the Union address, President George W. Bush said terrorists were still threatening America and warned of an “axis of evil” consisting of North Korea, Iran and Iraq.

In 2006 ABC “World News Tonight” co-anchor Bob Woodruff and a cameraman were seriously injured in a roadside bombing in Iraq.

In 2011, responding to days or protests and a mounting death toll, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak fired his Cabinet and appointed Omar Suleiman, head of intelligence, as the first vice president of his 30-year rule and retired air force Gen Ahmed Shafik as prime minister. Despite the moves, protests calling for his resignation continued in several Egyptian cities as well as rallies in sympathy with the protesters around world.

In 2013 Hadiya Pendleton, 15, who performed at inaugural activities for President Barack Obama, was shot and killed about a mile from Obama’s Chicago home.

In 2014 Google agreed to sell Motorola Mobility to Chinese tech giant Lenovo for \$2.91 billion.



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Chicago Tribune Death Notices

Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Death Notices

Aruldoss, Arumugam M.

Arumugam M. Aruldoss, age 91, of Oak Lawn, IL, passed away peacefully on January 24, 2023. He was born in 1931 in India and a graduate of Loyola College-Madras, India (BA), Chicago State University (MA Counseling), and Loyola University (PhD coursework in counseling). Arumugam dedicated more than 50 years in education teaching mathematics and science in India and in the USA at Brother Rice H.S., Chicago Public Schools, Moraine Valley Community College, and Robert Morris College. Arumugam was a loving husband to his wife of almost 59 years, Rajam (nee Rayappan); devoted father to his six children Stephanie (Liam) Aruldoss-Hawkshaw; Richard Aruldoss, TSgt (deceased); Robert (Michelle) Aruldoss; Patricia Aruldoss; Denise Aruldoss; and Lisa Aruldoss; and proud grandfather of two grandchildren Caroline Hawkshaw and Julia Hawkshaw. Active in education, the church, and community, Arumugam will be remembered fondly for his charisma, wit, faithfulness, love of learning, enthusiasm for sports and travel, and thoughtfulness and loyalty to his family and friends. A celebration of his life will take place with a Visitation on Friday, February 3, 2023, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at **Curley Funeral Home**, 6116 W. 111th Street, Chicago Ridge, IL 60415. Funeral Mass on Saturday, February 4, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. at Our Lady at St. Germaine Church, 9711 S. Kolin Ave. Oak Lawn, IL 60453, and interment to follow at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, 6001 W. 111th St, Alsip, IL 60803. For Funeral information, contact (708) 422-2700 or www.curleyfuneralhome.com. In light of COVID concerns, the Aruldoss Family respectfully requests those attending the visitation and funeral services to wear a mask, and kindly adhere to social distancing.

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Bertoni, Stanley Francis

Stanley Francis Bertoni, age 77, a resident of Huntley, IL and formerly long-time of Chicago's southside, passed away peacefully on January 26, 2023 at Sherman Hospital in Elgin, IL. He was born on February 25, 1945 in Chicago. Stanley is survived by his beloved wife of 56 years, Rosemarie Bertoni (nee Hanzlik); his loving son, Stan (Gail) Bertoni; his cherished grandsons, Brian and Brandon Bertoni; his dear brother, Rich (Marie) Bertoni; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and good friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Helen Bertoni. Stanley was a graduate of Mt. Carmel High School, Chicago, where he was a multiple sport athlete. He also played on multiple C.Y.O city softball championship teams. He enjoyed refereeing high school and park district basketball as well as umpiring 16in softball throughout the Chicagoland area for many years. Throughout his life he selflessly gave his time and talents to children and encouraged them to be the best they could be. He retired from School District #64-Park Ridge after many years as a custodian. For those who would like to leave a lasting tribute to Stanley's life, memorial donations may be directed to the Save the children Charity at www.savethechildren.org Visitation Friday, February 3, 3:00-7:00 PM at the **Overman-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services**, corner of Routes 30 & 59, Plainfield. Funeral Services will follow at 7:00 PM. Private interment St. Mary Cemetery, Evergreen Park, IL. For information call 815/436-9221 or visit www.overman-jones.com

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Funeral Homes & Cremation Services

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Bobbe, Dennis E.

Dennis E. Bobbe, age 79, a resident of Aurora, passed away on January 26, 2023. Memorial Visitation Friday, February 3, 10:00-11:00 AM at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, 1450 Green Trails Dr., Naperville. The Memorial Mass will follow at 11:00 AM. Inurnment Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Hillside. **Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services**, Naperville, was entrusted with arrangements. For information call 630-355-0213 or visit www.friedrich-jones.com for a complete obituary.

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Boisen, Lawrence H. 'Larry'

Lawrence "Larry" Boisen, age 86, passed away peacefully on January 17, 2023. He is survived by his beloved wife of 58 years, Berty, his loving children, Erik (Agnese), Melissa (Ken), adoring grandchildren Christian, Samantha, and Abbey, and his younger brother Wayne. Preceded in death by his parents, Harold & Edna, and his sister, June Beverly. Larry was born on May 9, 1936 in Chicago, IL. Always curious, and forever learning, Larry was a genuine, feisty, and passionate soul. With a head full of knowledge, and a heart full of love. He served in the U.S Army band, stationed in Germany. Following his service, he went to Northeastern Illinois University, where he earned his Bachelor's degree. Fluent in 7 languages, with a talent & passion for music and writing. Larry wrote & published over 200 songs, authored & published 2 novels, and wrote & helped produce over a dozen plays & musicals with local theaters. He was a Jazz man at heart, and played professionally with some of the greats of his time. A few months before his passing, he was still doing what he loved best, giving music lessons to his beloved students, at the Schaumburg Music Academy; a place he cherished. He will be forever loved & missed by many. Services for Larry are private. Arrangements entrusted to **Beidelman-Kunsch Funeral Homes & Crematory**. Info: 630-922-9630 or www.beidelmankunschfh.com



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Bolger (Sommer), Tracy Lee

Tracy Lee Bolger (Sommer), 61, of Chicago, Illinois, passed away peacefully at home on January 17, 2023. Born August 3, 1961 in Somerville, New Jersey, Tracy graduated from Homestead High School in Mequon, Wisconsin. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point and Milwaukee. Tracy moved to Chicago in 1985. She married Patrick Bolger of Glen Ellyn II in 1987 and they built a big, beautiful, and busy life together in Chicago.

Tracy joined the institutional investment firm LSV Asset Management in 1997, where she would be elevated to become the firm's first female partner. Deeply dedicated to her career and colleagues, she was modest about her professional accomplishments and how hard she worked to achieve them.

Tracy was an adventure seeker, diving out of airplanes and into oceans, and welcoming every chance to try something new. She eagerly traveled the world. She loved experiencing live music, cheering for Chicago's sports teams, and fighting passionately for women's rights.

Tracy was spectacularly adored by her family and friends. Beautiful, smart, kind, optimistic, and unfailingly generous, she had a special gift to bring out the best in others. Her loved ones are blessed with the memories of countless good times, joy and laughter, and the passion for life that she embodied. Her legacy will be carried on by her husband of 36 years Patrick; siblings Rob Sommer of Davidson, North Carolina and Betsy Kennedy of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan; Father Bob Sommer of Cedarburg, Wisconsin; and her many beloved nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her mother Geraldine Sommer.

A Celebration of Tracy's Life will be held April 29th starting at 2 pm, Columbia Yacht Club Chicago II

Memorial contributions may be directed to the nonprofit Chicago Hope Academy, in recognition of Patrick and Tracy's longtime support of their mission.

Chicago Hope Academy: 2189 W. Bowler Street, Chicago, IL. 60612. Please note in remembrance of Tracy Bolger

www.chicagohopeacademy.org

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Bryant, Margaret

Margaret Bryant. It is with profound sadness that Margret's family announces the passing of Margaret Bryant. Margaret was born on September 21, 1957 and passed away peacefully on January 16, 2023. Margaret was the beloved daughter of the late Urban and Mary (nee Burke). She was the loving sister of Debbie (William) Zolp and Mary (Jean-Pierre) Zermatten. Margaret was the dear aunt of Nicole, Mary, and Kristen who will miss her dearly. Visitation will be Thursday 10 AM until the time of Mass of Christian Burial at 11 AM. at Saint Bartholomew Church. Interment Calvary Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to The Mercy Home For Boys and Girls (www.mercyhome.org) would be appreciated.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Jaeger Funeral Home 773-545-1320

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Budzyn, Marian Patricia 'Pat'

Marian Patricia Budzyn (nee Fischer), age 67, resident of Mokena, Illinois, passed away suddenly on January 25th, 2023. Pat is the loving and cherished wife of Joseph E., mother of Tricia M. (Tony) Stier and USAF Lt Col Joseph A. (Diane) Budzyn, and the grandmother to Sadie M. (7) and Camden A. (4) Stier, and Alexander J. (11), Amelia F. (9), Aiden T. (8), and Archer J. (5) Budzyn. Pat is the daughter of the late Melvin and Marlene (Bauer) Fischer of Mauston, WI. Sister of Mary (Harry) Kozak, Melvin Fischer, and Monica (Dennis) Krejci. She is the aunt of Christopher (Rhonda) Kozak, Timothy (Amy) Kozak, Stacey (Steve) Davis, and Melissa Ackley, Nicholas, Christina, Mallory, and Madelynn Fischer. She was "Aunt Pat" to many many more. She enjoyed the company of others and had many friends, including the ladies of her pickleball group. She was the best wife and truly Joe's "better half." Pat's family was most important to her, and her grandchildren were her pride and joy. Pat was very faithful and an active parishioner of St. Mary, Mokena. Pat attended Jones Commercial high school, began working as a legal secretary in downtown Chicago, and retired as the Executive Assistant for the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, Lemont, IL. Visitation will be Monday, January 30th, at Vandenberg Funeral Home, Mokena, IL 3:00-8:00 PM. The Funeral Mass will be held Tuesday, January 31st, 10:00 AM at St. Mary Church, Mokena, IL. Interment at Good Sheppard Catholic Cemetery, Orland Park, IL. In lieu of flowers, a donation in Pat's name can be made to the charity of your choice.

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Campbell, Scott Douglas

Scott Douglas Campbell, devoted husband, father, brother, colleague, and friend, passed away peacefully after a brave and prolonged battle with pancreatic cancer on January 20th, 2023, surrounded by his family. He is survived by his loving wife Naira, daughter Anahit, son John, siblings Ruth, Rich (Nancy), and Karen (Mike), and parents-in-law Marina and Sergey. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Eleanor, and brother Bruce (Joni).



Scott was born in the suburbs of Chicago on July 3rd, 1962. He loved celebrating life by traveling, fishing, hiking, reading, and grilling for his family. He earned his BS and MS degrees in civil engineering from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and his PhD in structural engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, later becoming one of the leading experts in his field.

Scott started his career as a professor at the American University of Armenia (AUA), in Yerevan, Armenia, at the frontiers when the institution was starting. AUA became a place where Scott met Naira - his wife, lifelong friend, and collaborator. Scott was always passionate about his students and was one of the favorite faculty members at every institution where he had worked.

As a person, Scott was genuinely a selfless, kind, supportive, and incredibly intelligent individual. There wasn't a trivia question he couldn't get right, even up to the day of his passing. His kids sought him for advice often, and he and his wife were lucky to collaborate on intellectual projects together.

Donations can be made to the American University of Armenia Corporation (AUAC) for the establishment of the Dr. Scott Campbell Scholarship Fund at the American University of Armenia (AUA). Checks can be made payable to the American University of Armenia Corporation and mailed to (in the memo section, please indicate Dr. Scott Campbell Scholarship Fund): AUA Office of Development 117 S. Louise Street, Suite 310 Glendale, CA 91205.

Scott wanted his life to be celebrated with drinks, food, and music. A private memorial service will be scheduled at a later date.

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Carey, Norma

Norma A. Carey passed away peacefully January 27 in Barrington. She was born August 1, 1926 in Chicago to Joseph and Rose Spale. Norma was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 46 years, Daniel; and her loving daughter, Jane in 2021. She is survived by her son in law, Tom McDonough; grandchildren, Tommy, Katie, and Jack; soon to be granddaughter-in-law Grace and soon to be grandson-in-law Jason. Norma graduated from the University of Illinois with a degree in English. She went on to work for the Sun Times and Barrington School District. She spent many years working for and volunteering with the Barrington Public Library, including helping to pass a referendum and build a new library. She was also the president of the philanthropic Barrington Woman's Club until 1976. Norma enjoyed passing her time listening to her favorite radio station, WFMT, as well as Jimmy Buffett, Billy Joel, and Rod Stewart. She spent many years supporting the Chicago Lyric Opera, The Art Institute of Chicago, and The Chicago Symphony Orchestra, an activity she enjoyed with her friends and grandson, Tommy. Norma also spent many years going to U of I games with her beloved husband, Daniel. Norma was loved by anyone who met her, but you would hold a special place in her heart if you brought her favorites - biscottis or ice cream sundaes. We will miss her infectious personality and unexpected sassy commentary that made everyone around laugh. Visitation will be from 10am until the funeral service at 12pm Tuesday January 31 at **Davenport Family Funeral Home**, 149 W. Main St. (Lake Cook Road) Barrington. Burial will follow in White Cemetery, Cuba Township.

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Cohen, Michael S.

Michael Cohen beloved father of Kenneth (Lisa) Cohen, Tracy Cohen and Chloe Lawler. Cherished grandfather of Ryan and Jennifer Cohen. Dear brother of the late Sandra Herman. Fond uncle of Jacqueline Herman. Services Monday 10AM at Sunset Memorial Lawns Chapel, 3100 Shermer Road, Northbrook, IL. In lieu of flowers remembrances to the JUF or to your preferred charity would be appreciated. Arrangement by Mitzvah Memorial Funerals, 630-Mitzvah (648-9824) or www.MITZVAHFUNERALS.com



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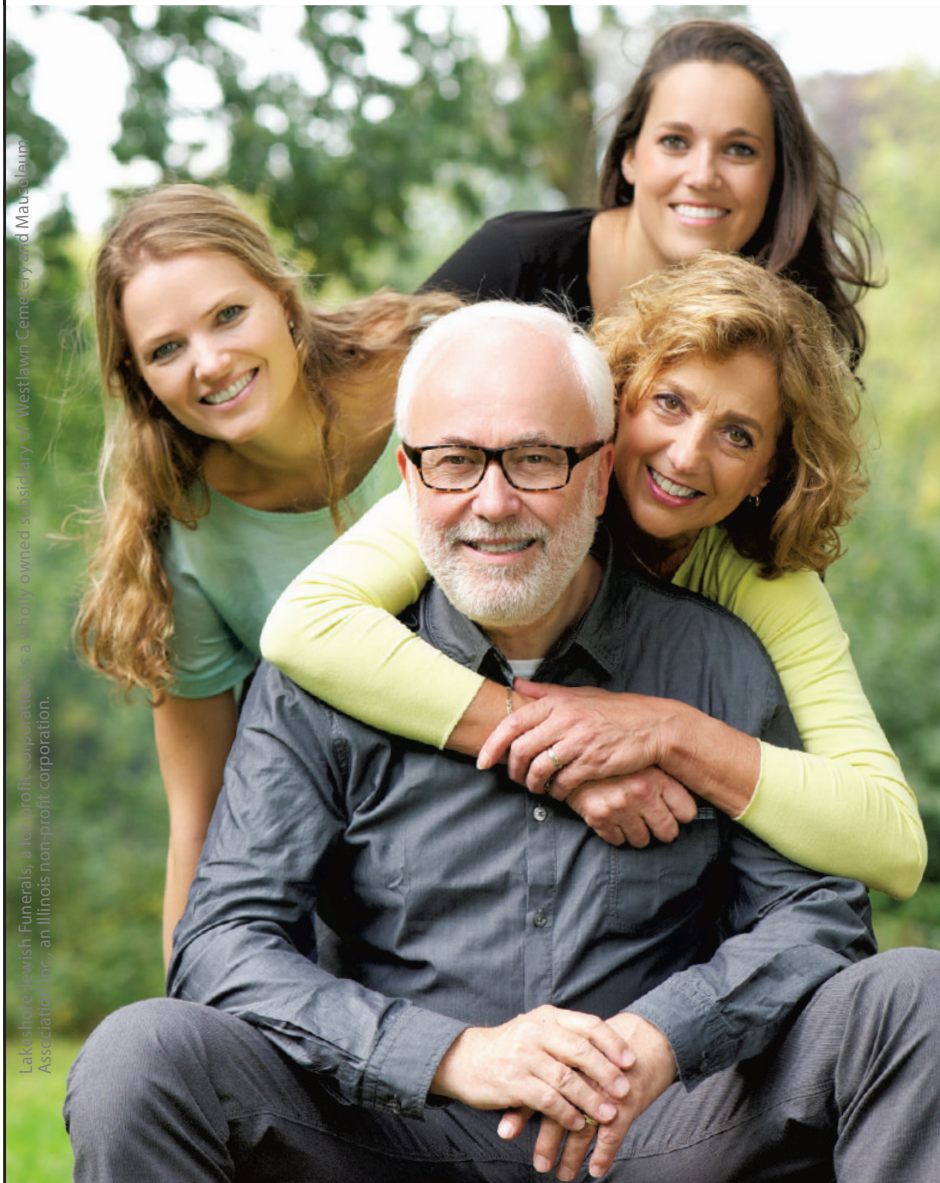
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Coleman, Christina Ann

Christina Ann Coleman (nee Wendorf), age 57. Loving wife for 30 years of John T. Coleman Jr, mother of Patricia, Colleen, Christina "Cici", Meghan, Mary, and Theresa, began her ultimate journey in the early morning of January 27. Growing up in Bensenville with brothers Kevin Wendorf (Gwendoline), the late John Wendorf (Jade) and parents Patsy and Patrick (both deceased), Christina graduated Northern Illinois University and entered the brokerage business in Chicago. For nearly thirty years, suburban Glenview was home. Involved in the community, from PTA to religious education, Cubs games and church guild, Christina loved her family and shared that love broadly with the friends and parents of her children. Visitation Thursday, February 2, 2023, 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at Donnellan Family Funeral Services, 10045 Skokie Blvd, Skokie, IL. 60077. Funeral Mass, Friday, February 3, 2023, 11:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 1775 Grove St, Glenview, IL. 60025. Burial private. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Lustgarten Foundation: Pancreatic Cancer. <https://events.lustgarten.org/team/477511>. Info: donnellanfuneral.com or (847) 675-1990.



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Cutting, Andrew S. 'Andy'

Andrew S. "Andy" Cutting, age 54, died Friday, January 20, 2023, at his home. He was the beloved husband of Karla, née Madison; devoted son of Robert and Carole, née Balderson; and dear brother of John and Brett. Andy committed his life to caring for others. He was a firefighter and EMT in his native homeland of Australia, and after migrating to the United States, he served as a paramedic, firefighter and engineer in the Skokie Fire Department for more than 20 years. He was also a lifelong musician who played keyboards and percussion in bands around the globe. In his free time, Andy enjoyed traveling with his wife, attending live music concerts, visiting wine regions of the world, and lavishing attention on his dog, Bindi. Funeral Service, with Fire Department Honors, will be held Saturday, February 11, 2023, at 2 p.m., at St. Peter Parish Chapel, 8140 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Shield 23 Foundation, 6615 Grand Ave., Suite B-232, Gurnee, IL, 60031 (shield23foundation.org) or Felines & Canines, P.O. Box 60616, Chicago, IL, 60660 (felinescanines.org). Funeral info: 847.673.6111 or habenfuneral.com to sign guestbook and to leave a condolence message.



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Delaney, Janet M. Janet M. Delaney, 97 of Arlington Heights was born May 15, 1925 in Milton, MA and passed away January 23, 2023. Janet was the beloved wife of the late Robert E. Delaney; loving mother of Robert (Colleen) Delaney, Jane (William) McConnell, Kathleen (late James) Ward, Richard (Dawn) Delaney, Bartholomew (Linda) Delaney, Eugene (Gayle) Delaney Joseph (Mary Beth) Delaney and the late Barbara Jayne Delaney; cherished grandmother of 17; great-grandmother of 19 and dear sister of the late George Burke, Paul Burke and Barbara Burke. Memorial visitation will be Monday, February 20, 2023 from 10:00 AM until the time of the Funeral Mass at 11:00 AM at Our Lady of the Wayside Church, 440 S. Mitchell Avenue, Arlington Heights. Interment will be private. Funeral info 847-253-5423 or lauterburgoehler.com



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DePinto, Gwendolyn M. Gwendolyn M. DePinto (née Morris), aged 99, of Westmont passed away on January 19, 2023. Was preceded in death by her husband, and WWII army veteran, Albert DePinto, who passed away on December 23, 2003. Dear mother of Jack, Jerry (Eunice), the late Karen (Dennis) Gulotta, and Debra Yaccino. Adored sister of the late Mary Jane Chmielewski (formerly Blaha) and the late Virginia Tobey. Loving grandmother of Denise, Anthony, Michael, Christopher, Danny (Kim), Rosemary, and Hayley. Cherished aunt, great-aunt, and friend to many. Proudly served in the United States Marines and longtime volunteer at Hines VA Hospital. Private service.

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DePinto, Gwendolyn M.

Gwendolyn M. DePinto (née Morris), aged 99, of Westmont passed away on January 19, 2023. Was preceded in death by her husband, and WWII army veteran, Albert DePinto, who passed away on December 23, 2003. Dear mother of Jack, Jerry (Eunice), the late Karen (Dennis) Gulotta, and Debra Yaccino. Adored sister of the late Mary Jane Chmielewski (formerly Blaha) and the late Virginia Tobey. Loving grandmother of Denise, Anthony, Michael, Christopher, Danny (Kim), Rosemary, and Hayley. Cherished aunt, great-aunt, and friend to many. Proudly served in the United States Marines and longtime volunteer at Hines VA Hospital. Private service.

Duffy, Mary P. Mary P. Duffy, 91, of Northbrook, IL passed away Wed., Jan. 18, 2023 in Worthington, OH. Born in Stevens Point, WI, on Aug. 31, 1931, to the late Anton Pliffner and Elizabeth (Collins) DeBot. Beloved wife of the late Dr. Emmet James Duffy; loving mother of Michael (Virginia) Duffy and Elizabeth (Scott) Easton; dear grandmother of Timothy, Virginia, and Brian Duffy; and Jack, Mary, and Collin Easton; fond step-sister of William (Roseann) DeBot; and adored aunt of many. Visitation Sat., Feb. 4, 2023, at St. Anne Catholic Church, 9091 Prairie Ridge Blvd, Pleasant Prairie, WI, from 9 a.m. until time of Mass at 10 a.m. Interment St. James Cemetery, Kenosha. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Dr. E.J. and Mary Duffy Scholarship Fund at Glenbrook North High School at https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=H3Q2AS2KE3Q54 Arrangements entrusted to Proko Funeral Home & Crematory, Kenosha, WI. Phone: (262) 654-3533 Visit & Sign Mary's Online Memorial Book at: www.prokofuneralhome.com

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Farrell, James Patrick 'Jim' James Patrick "Jim" Farrell, 83, of Park Ridge, passed away at his home on January 16th after a brief illness. He is survived by his wife Verne Hoos Farrell of 49 years as well as by two devoted sons, Matthew (Rebecca Thomson) and Andrew Farrell. In addition, he leaves behind cherished grandsons James and Andrew, his brother Jack (Melissa) Farrell and over 23 nieces and nephews. Jim grew up in Chicago's north side neighborhood of Sauganash where he attended Queen of All Saints grammar school. He spent his HS years at St George High School in Evanston before obtaining both his undergraduate and graduate degrees at Loyola University in Chicago. After a few years of teaching in Chicago, Jim spent the rest of his career at Maine East HS in Park Ridge where he was respected and admired by colleagues and students alike who appreciated his gentle nature, his wisdom, his steadiness and sharp wit. He embodied the phrase, "a gentleman and a scholar."

Farrell, James Patrick 'Jim'

James Patrick "Jim" Farrell, 83, of Park Ridge, passed away at his home on January 16th after a brief illness. He is survived by his wife Verne Hoos Farrell of 49 years as well as by two devoted sons, Matthew (Rebecca Thomson) and Andrew Farrell. In addition, he leaves behind cherished grandsons James and Andrew, his brother Jack (Melissa) Farrell and over 23 nieces and nephews. Jim grew up in Chicago's north side neighborhood of Sauganash where he attended Queen of All Saints grammar school. He spent his HS years at St George High School in Evanston before obtaining both his undergraduate and graduate degrees at Loyola University in Chicago. After a few years of teaching in Chicago, Jim spent the rest of his career at Maine East HS in Park Ridge where he was respected and admired by colleagues and students alike who appreciated his gentle nature, his wisdom, his steadiness and sharp wit. He embodied the phrase, "a gentleman and a scholar."

Jim met his wife Verne in the English Dept where he taught both English and Film Study, a course he developed and for which he purchased many films on his own to support the curriculum. Students who avoided rigor did not sign up for Mr. Farrell's classes. He also ran a very large and active Ski Club at Maine East for 28 years. Besides taking students to Wilmot most Fridays in the winter, he introduced them to the slopes of MI, WI, and Vail, CO every year. Outside of school Jim was also a busy landlord and a thoughtful equities investor. After 33 years of teaching he retired, but continued to substitute regularly at ME for another 19 yrs. In retirement he thrived on organizing biking and skiing group outings for retirees. In addition to his outdoor ventures, Jim enjoyed travel with his wife, music of all types, movies, plays, concerts, and hosting parties. He raised his sons in Park Ridge and rejoiced in visits by them and his two young grandsons. Jim was paralyzed his last two years but maintained his humor, grace, and patience. He always had a smile for his almost daily visitors.

Fischer, Edward R. "Eddie" Edward R. "Eddie" Fischer, age 83, US Air Force Veteran, beloved husband for 60 years to Karalyn "Lynn", nee Hansen. Loving father of Kurt (Mary) Fischer and Dana Fischer. Cherished grandfather of Michael, Malea, Kenzie, Jensen and Grace. Dearest brother of the late Judy. Dear brother-in-law of Jack (Lois) Hansen. Fond uncle of Tammy, Chris, Brett, Jack, Jeff, Jamie, Pat, and Jennifer. Eddie was a friend to everyone he ever met. Proud friend of Bill W. for 31 years. A Celebration of Eddie's life will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, enjoy a round of golf in his memory. Express your thoughts and condolences at colonialchapel.com 708-532-5400



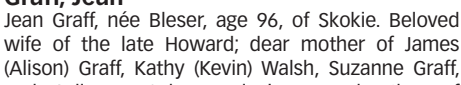
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Gleeson, Mary Ann Mary Ann Gleeson, age 89, of Chicago, IL, at rest January 25. Retired Chicago Public School teacher; beloved and cherished daughter of the late Eugene and Catherine (nee Finley); survived by several dear cousins, nieces, grandnephews, and grandnieces. Funeral Mass on Monday, January 30, at 10am at Saint Cletus Church, 600 West 55th Street, La Grange, IL. Interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery will be private. Arrangements entrusted to **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, Countryside. 708-352-6500 or HJFunerals.com



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Graff, Jean Jean Graff, née Bleser, age 96, of Skokie. Beloved wife of the late Howard; dear mother of James (Alison) Graff, Kathy (Kevin) Walsh, Suzanne Graff, and Sally Jo Osborne; loving grandmother of Carey, Jamie, Brittany, Kaitlin, Alexandra, and Ella; cherished great-grandmother. Visitation, Monday, January 30, 2023, from 4 to 8 p.m., at HABEN Funeral Home & Crematory, 8057 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. Funeral, Tuesday, January 31, at 9:45 a.m., from the funeral home, for Mass of Christian Burial, 10 a.m., at St. Peter Church of Ss. Peter & Lambert Catholic Parish, 8100 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. Interment, All Saints Catholic Cemetery, Des Plaines. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph's Home for the Elderly, 80 W. Northwest Hwy., Palatine, IL, 60067 (littlesistersofthepoorpalatine.org). Funeral info: 847-673.6111 or habenfuneral.com to sign guestbook and to leave a condolence message.



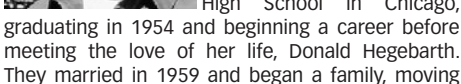
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Hegebarth, Jacqueline 'Jackie' Jacqueline "Jackie" Hegebarth, age 86, of Naperville, passed away on January 17, 2023. She was in the company of her loving husband when she died. Jackie was born on December 2, 1936 in Chicago, Illinois. She is predeceased by her parents, John and Birgit (Andersen) Reeves. She attended Carl Schurz High School in Chicago, graduating in 1954 and beginning a career before meeting the love of her life, Donald Hegebarth. They married in 1959 and began a family, moving to Naperville in 1973. Jackie was a professional administrator throughout her career, working for companies such as Alberto Culver, Service Master and Metropolitan Computer Center before retiring from her position at DuPage Convalescent Center in 2007. The culinary arts were one of Jackie's passions. She amassed a variety of skills and relished in providing her family with meals from a diversity of cultures. From Jambalaya to Sopapillas, Jackie was brave in her culinary adventures, but she sometimes forgot the parsley. Jackie's other interests included supporting and attending The Lyric Opera and The MAC at College of DuPage. She and her husband enjoyed European travel, visiting Italy, France, Portugal and Spain. Jackie also loved literature. She was an avid reader, especially enjoying books of historical fiction. Jackie is survived by her husband, Donald Hegebarth of Naperville, son Kevin Hegebarth of Suwanee, GA, and daughter Julia (Geoff) Mellinger of Glen Ellyn, IL. She is also survived by two grandchildren, Neil and Katie Hegebarth, several siblings and a plethora of nieces and nephews. Jackie requested an intimate funeral and burial not far from her home. The family wishes to thank all of those who cared for her the last few months. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Lyric Opera would be appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to **Beidelman-Kunsch Funeral Homes & Crematory**. Info: 630-922-9630 or www.beidelmankunschfh.com



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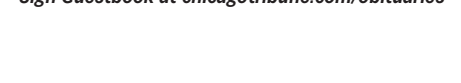
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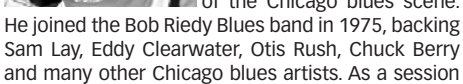
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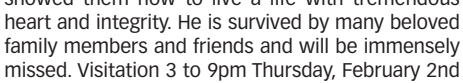
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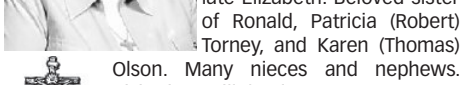
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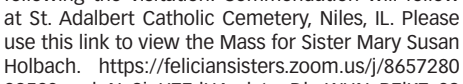
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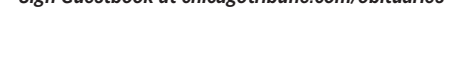
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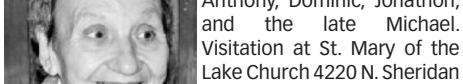
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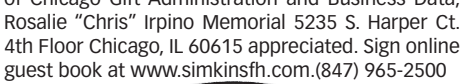
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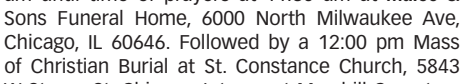
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Hill, Ruth Ahlquist Ruth Ahlquist Hill, age 100, of Seattle, Washington died peacefully surrounded by family December 11th, 2022. She was born April 11, 1922, to Swedish immigrants Lilly and Elis Ahlquist. Ruth and her sister, Betty were raised in Chicago, Illinois, and Ruth raised her four children in Winnetka, Illinois. A consummate homemaker and lover of children and animals, Ruth was happiest when surrounded by family. She moved to Seattle, Washington at age 85 to be close to her daughters and grandchildren. She was predeceased by her son, Jesse and survived by daughters Holly and Libby of Seattle, son Jim of The Villages, Florida, five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. A memorial service will take place in August at the Winnetka Congregational Church. In lieu of flowers please send donations to the Juvenile Diabetes Association.



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Kucera, Charles W. 'Chuck'

Charles "Chuck" W. Kucera, 91, of Palatine, passed January 17, 2023. Beloved husband of the late Joan; loving Father of Catherine, Charles Jr., and the late Richard; dear brother of Ken (Diane); uncle of Ken Jr. (Nancy), Kevin, Kent (Alison) and Denise (Doug); great-uncle to Kaitlyn and Adam. Served in the US Air Force. Services will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations would be appreciated to Disabled Veterans, Animal Care League in Oak Park, Holy Family Church in Inverness, or any charity of your choice.



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Lynch, Margaret A 'Peggy'

Margaret A. "Peggy" Lynch nee Shaughnessy, age 89.



Beloved wife of the late Michael Lynch. Devoted mother of Marg (George) Jackowicz, Laurie (Russ) Frank, Kathy (Dave) Short, Michael (Chris) Lynch, Eileen (Christopher) Brynda. Cherished grandma of Patrick, Maura, Liam, Michelle (Greg), Robert (Rachel), Daniella (Andrew), Mary Claire, Patrick, George, Michael, Maura, Maggie (Ben), Kieran, Kristyn and Sean. Loving sister of Kathleen (Louis) Hegeman, Anne (the late Edward) Barry, Michael (Jeanne) Shaughnessy, Donald (Janet) McKay, Brian (the late Deborah) Shaughnessy and the late Donald (Mary Ann) Shaughnessy.

Fond cousin of Patricia McEnerney. Dear aunt, cousin and friend of many. Peggy was a dedicated CPS teacher for over 30 years. Peggy inspired us with her faith, love of family and friends, genuine interest in others, and her sweet nature until the very end. She will be greatly missed by many. A visitation will be held on Tuesday, January 31st, 2023, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM at **Schmaedeke Funeral Home**, 10701 S. Harlem Ave., Worth, IL. Family and friends will meet at Sacred Heart Church, 8245 W. 111th St., Palos Hills, IL, at 10:30 AM Wednesday February 1st, 2023. Interment Holy Sepulcher Cemetery. In lieu of flowers please make donations to the Multiple Sclerosis Association of America or Dravet Syndrome Foundation. For information 708-448-6000 or www.schmaedekefuneralhome.com



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Lyons, Kenneth Robert 'Ken'

Kenneth Robert Lyons, age 65, of Skokie, IL, peacefully passed away in West Valley City, Utah, at home with his family, now home to Jesus, on January 12, 2023. He was born on April 28, 1957 in Skokie, IL, to Rose M., nee Cattellino and Robert J. Lyons who have since preceded him in death along with his fond brother, Thomas L. He is survived by his loving daughter Melissa (Chris) Godfrey; precious granddaughters Sicily and Tessa; nephew Richard (Victoria) Lyons; darling great-niece Aria; dear great-nephew Tommy; nephew Robert E. He will be greatly missed by all those who knew him. A Celebration of Life service will be held in Skokie, IL, on April 28, 2023. Details to follow.

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Mendel, Jean

Jean Joy Marmor Mendel, age 95, loving wife of 44 years to the late Mervyn Mendel; much-loved daughter to the late Samuel and Ethel Marmor; loving mother of four sons, Barry (Caryn), Scott (Liz), Allan (Kim Reilly, the late Sandy Mendel), and Jeff (Daphne) Mendel; treasured sister of the late Allan Marmor, dear grandmother of Brad (Kim) Mendel, Jackie (Steven) Glass, Sarah Trager Mendel, Jessica Trager Mendel, Michael Mendel and Vern Mendel, and Meghan Connolly; cherished great-grandmother of Lea and Sydney Glass, Sinclair and Sebastian Trager Mendel, and Madison and Emerson Mendel.

Jean lived life with great joy, taking great pride in overseeing her modern family spanning four generations. Jean was an avid runner, winning trophies in her age group well into her 70s. She and Merv loved to golf, and she celebrated her first and only birdie at age 89 with Jeff and Daphne. She celebrated when the Cubs won the World Series in 2016. Jean was a much beloved classroom reader at Wescott Elementary School, volunteered at Misericordia for 25 years into her 90s and delivered for Meals on Wheels into her 90s. She loved her dogs (Frisky, Sonny, Chubbo, Winston, Minnie and Sadie), her cats (Misty, Sammie and Buttons), and the many dogs and cats of her children and grandchildren.

Memorial Service Monday, 2:00 p.m. CT at The Chapel, 195 N. Buffalo Grove Rd., Buffalo Grove (1 Blk N. of Lake Cook Rd.). The service will be livestreamed on Jean's webpage at www.goldmanfuneralgroup.com. In lieu of flowers, please consider making donations in Jean's memory to Misericordia, www.misericordia.com, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, www.jdrf.org or Forward Steps Foundation, www.forwardsteps.org. Info: The **Goldman Funeral Group** (847) 478-1600.



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Mendrick, MaryJane "'Sunny'"

MaryJane Mendrick, nee Sunwall, age 93. Beloved wife of the late Richard Mendrick; loving mother of Nancy (Dan) Jones, Pamela (the late John) Semple, James Mendrick, and Mary (Jeff) van de Linde; Cherished grandmother of Tanner, Jenna, Robert, the late Kristin, Brandon, and Brianna. Dear sister of Betty Ann (Jim) Walton; Many nieces and nephews; much loved caregivers Laurie, Chris, Judy, Frank, Angelica, and the late Jessica. Mass was held at St. Hubert Catholic Church in Hoffman Estates with interment following at St. Michael the Archangel Cemetery in Palatine. The funeral and committal can be viewed on MaryJane's webpage on www.muralfunerals.com. In lieu of flowers contributions in MaryJane's name to a charity of your choice would be appreciated. Info **Mural Funeral Group** - Northbrook 847-648-0086



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Mensinga, Eleanor M.

Eleanor M. Mensinga, age 100, nee Pesa, of Park Ridge. Beloved wife of the late Jacob. Sister of the late Evelyn (the late Merle) Hall, Lorraine (the late John) Chynoweth, and the late Dorothy and the late John Trobl. Fond aunt of many nieces and nephews; and great-nieces and nephews. She loved them all. Her favorite pastime was writing both before and after retirement. She sang in her church choir and was an active member of the Park Ridge Sr. Center since 1983. Visitation on Wednesday, February 1st at **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, 1025 W. 55th St., Countryside from 10am until time of service, 12pm. Interment to follow at Chapel Hill Gardens West Cemetery, Oakbrook Terrace. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Presbyterian Church of Park Ridge are greatly appreciated. Funeral information: 708-352-6500 or hifunerals.com



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Merley (Robinson), Gail

Age 97, of St. Paul, MN, passed away peacefully on January 22, 2023. Preceded in death by her loving husband of 56 years, Peter Merley, her parents Herman Robinson and Pauline (Stone) Robinson, and her brother Marvin (Harriet) Robinson.



Survived by sons Steven and Dennis (Lynn); grandchildren Paul (Jess), Anne (David) and Dan (Jessica), and great grandchildren Noah and Maya.

Born and raised in Chicago, IL, Gail enrolled at Northwestern University in 1941 at the age of 16. She enjoyed her years there but regretted that most of the "fellas" were off serving in the military. She graduated with a journalism degree and began writing radio shows for Wieboldt Stores. In 1949, she married Peter, her true soul mate, and left her job to devote her full energies to her marriage and family.

In the mid-1980's, Gail and Peter responded to the lure of sun and warmer temperatures by moving to Lake Worth, FL., where they spent many happy years together until Peter passed away in 2005. In 2018, Gail arrived in Minnesota to spend her remaining years closer to family.

Gail loved to travel, especially to the mountains of Austria and Switzerland which always made her feel like she was a star in a Hollywood movie. She also enjoyed playing canasta and bridge with friends. Most of all, she loved her family and was fiercely devoted to them.

A private service for family will be held at a later date. Heartfelt gratitude to the wonderful staff at Sholom Home St. Paul for the tender and loving care they provided to Gail.

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Mills, Vicki K.

Victoria K. Mills of Lake Forest, Illinois, passed peacefully in her home on January 23, 2023. In death as in life, Vicki was dressed to the nines for her swansong. She orchestrated her exodus from her opulent-meets-over-the-top manse to the Couture Closet in the sky with the same grace, kindness, and Southern charm that she bestowed upon all who knew her.



Vicki's happiness was infectious. Her friends say she wouldn't let them be sad or speak badly of themselves or anyone else. Anytime they were down they would say "Get on the Vicki Train!" Vicki made every day of the week an off-the-rails fabulous ride for friends, family, and anyone she picked up along the way. Dinner and lunch plans were in rollicking rotation. Life with Vicki was magical, and every moment was celebrated with pomp and circumstance. Her Fourth of July and New Year's Eve parties were the stuff of legend.

Vicki's story began in Roanoke, Virginia with her parents Adolph and Ruth Krisch. She was a wild child with a taste for adventure – often sneaking her parent's car out for joy rides and corrupting her younger cousin Freddie by having him put cocktails in his mailbox before she hit the dances at Virginia Military Institute. She was summarily sent to boarding school after these stunts, but never finished high school or attended college. Vicki was too busy schooling the world around her in how to live!

Cousins from Roanoke were an important part of her life. Vicki had reunions with them for thirty-some years at her Lake Forest home. She was the glue-on glitter that held the family together.

Vicki's story continued to bloom when she met and married Jim Mills, the love of her life, in 1973. Jim adored Vicki and told her each day she was beautiful and hid a gift for her each day calling himself the "Good Fairy."

Vicki had her own gift of collecting objet d'art from the sublime to the self-described ridiculous. From kitsch to couture, diamonds to dirt-cheap baubles, furniture, accessories, art, and accoutrement spanning the bridge from the iconic to the absurd – Vicki's procurements were not for the timid.

She never met a rhinestone she didn't like, and glitter was part of her DNA. For Vicki dressing was fun and she created her own signature suits with lace, crystals, embroidery and feathers.

Her extensive collection of Judith Leiber bejeweled bags led to a long friendship with Judith and her husband Gus. Vicki's closet was even the inspiration for a fashion column called "Walk-In Closet" that ran in a regional magazine for ten years.

Despite (or perhaps because of) these eccentricities, Vicki devoted herself to Jim and helped him grow his business, Medline Industries, into a successful, nationally known medical supply company. Vicki was always the belle of the ball, but never failed to make her guests, employees, and peers feel special and appreciated with gifts, tokens of appreciation, and an inherent and genuine warmth. Vicki loved to give. It filled her heart to give away money – even to total strangers. She put her signature Vicki Heart on every gift.

Over the decades, Vicki and Jim entertained over 8,000 customers in their historic home – most of them spending the night in the numerous themed bedrooms. She made customers, friends, and everyone she met feel special and looked after.

Vicki was part of an exceptional group of friends that dubbed themselves "The Napkin Club" that formed when Jim and Vicki moved to Lake Forest in 1978. They gathered formally and loosely over the years and Vicki was chief instigator, and keeper of those relationships – and the bar was always open. Every night, Jimmy would tell Vicki to "Say goodnight, Vicki" and she would say "Goodnight, Vicki" signaling that it was time to go.

So, Goodnight, Vicki – planet earth will be boring as hell without you, but thanks for the ride of our lives!

Vicki is survived by her children Margueritte Jackson, Deidre Grubb, Charlie Mills, Donnie Mills, and Peggy Baker (John) and her grandchildren Joseph Jackson, Miriam Jackson, Davis Grubb, Rosalie Grubb, Adam Mills, Tessa Mills, Julia Mills, Blair Baker, Hayden Baker, and Wilson Baker.

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Nesler, James 'Jim'

James "Jim" David Nesler, age 75. Passed away Saturday, January 21, 2023. Beloved son of the late David L. and Marion E. (nee Wortman) Nesler. Dear brother of Joseph (Elisabeth) and the late John W. Nesler. Fond uncle of Emily (John) Thomas and Charles (fiancée Colleen Anthes) Nesler and great uncle of Claire Thomas. Jim graduated from the North Shore Country Day School in 1965. At North Shore, he displayed his considerable voice talent in Gilbert & Sullivan and other school productions, and wrote various musical works in a classical vein. (In 1965, Time magazine featured an article in which it interviewed several brilliant high school seniors across the nation—including Jim—whose applications to their "first choice" colleges had been inexplicably rejected—in Jim's case, by Harvard and Stanford). After North Shore, he attended Rollins College in Florida, Shimer College in Illinois and Whittier College in California before finally settling down and receiving a Bachelor's degree in English from the University of Illinois. He then received a Master's degree in German from Southern Illinois University. In his spare time he taught himself to play the piano and, through the good graces of the organist and choirmaster at the family's church, was given access to the church's organ during off hours, when he taught himself to play that instrument as well. (During warm weather when windows were open, he drew several complaints from neighbors that he was playing much too loudly). In the early 1980s, after having served as a translator for the British Army in Germany, and as a salesman here at home, he enrolled in the Duquesne University School of Law. Before completing law school, mental illness -- which had episodically plagued him from a young age, but from which he always seemed to manage to bounce back -- struck hard, leaving him unable to obtain his law degree and pursue a fulfilling life and career, and robbing him of the two passions that marked his earlier years: the enjoyment of classical music and the study of ancient languages, including Latin, Greek and Sanskrit. In the past 15 years his physical health deteriorated as well, resulting in a stroke and ultimately his death. The family wishes to thank all those who cared for him over the course of many years, including most recently at the Citadel nursing home facility in Skokie. We are also thankful for the care and compassion of his guardian, Emily Teige of Rehab Assist, Inc. We are all saddened by the pain and suffering Jim endured, literally for decades, but heartened to know that he is now at peace.

Funeral service and interment will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), PO Box 49104 Baltimore, MD 21297 or <https://nami.org/Home>. For funeral information 773-736-3833 or visit Jim's memorial at www.smithcorcoran.com.

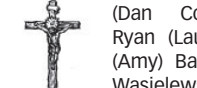


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Norkewicz, Wanda Helen

Wanda Helen Norkewicz, age 99 of Melrose Park, passed away in her home on January 24, 2023.

Beloved wife of the late Leo R. Norkewicz. Dearest mother of Patricia (Ralph) Badalamenti, Nancy (Michael) Wasielewski, Gerry Norkewicz and the late Paula Norkewicz. Loving grandmother of David Badalamenti



(Dan Cowan), Lara Badalamenti, Ryan (Lauren) Badalamenti, Jonathan (Amy) Badalamenti, Michael (Melissa) Wasielewski and Amanda Wasielewski (Agri Ismail). Cherished great-grandmother of Jacob, Vincent and Wesley Badalamenti; Henry, Bria and Fiona Wasielewski; Max and Leo Badalamenti; and Van Wasielewski-Ismail. She was born in Chicago on March 26, 1923, to Stanley and Sophia (nee Skura) Korczynski. She was predeceased by her brother Stanley Korczynski and sister Loretta Hnizdor. Visitation at **Bormann Funeral Home**, Melrose Park, January 30, 9-10:30 a.m.; Mass at Sacred Heart Church 11 a.m.; Interment at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Hillside.

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Ottlinger, Barbara Lynne

Barbara Ottlinger, nee Wessendorf, of Glenview passed away Monday, January 23rd at the age of 81. She is survived by her husband George; her daughters, Lorin Ottlinger, Lynn (Eric) Yopchick; and her two grandsons, Kyle Yopchick, and Max Ottlinger. A celebration of life will take place in the spring. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital http://gift-funds.stjude.org/Barbara_Ottlinger.

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Pagani, Diane J.

Funeral Services for Diane J. Pagani, 88, of Palatine will be private. Diane was born on December 26, 1934 to Thomas and Elsie Conville. She passed away on January 23, 2023. She was the beloved wife of the late Joseph Pagani for 49 years; loving mother of Julie (Dean) Brumm, Kathleen (Adrian) MacGregor; dear grandmother of Tyler, Colin, Geena, and Madeline; and fond sister to the late Arline Bonadonna. Funeral Arrangements made by Ahlgrim Family Funeral Home, Palatine. 847-358-7411 or AhlgrimFFS.com.

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Rajich, Freda

Freda Rajich, age 91, passed away Thursday morning, January 26, 2023. She was the loving wife of the late Bora; cherished aunt of Thomas G. Rude, and many other nieces and nephews, as well as grand nieces and nephews. Freda was a long-time resident of Chicago, and a member of Old Holy Resurrection Serbian Orthodox Church. She will be dearly missed by her family and friends in the United States and in the United Kingdom. Visitation Monday, January 30, 2023 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. at **Muzyka & Son Funeral Home**, 5776 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago, with Pomen (Wake Service) 7 p.m. Opelo (Funeral Service) Tuesday, January 31, 2023 11 a.m. at New Gracanica Serbian Orthodox Monastery, 35420 W. Grant Ave., Third Lake. Interment New Gracanica Cemetery. For more information, please call (773) 545-3800 or visit Freda's Memorial Tribute at www.MuzykaFuneralHome.com.

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Rickard, Cianain "Ken"

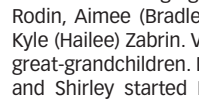
Cianain "Ken" Rickard passed away on Friday, January 27, 2023 surrounded by his family. Known for his Irish charm and devotion to his family, Ken was born on November 22, 1934 in Bellewstown, Co. Meath, Ireland to Jack and Anne (Flood) Rickard. Ken moved to the US with his future bride Johanna "Joan" (O'Brien) of Co. Kerry, Ireland, and they raised 7 loving children; Julia (Mike) Staisiunas, Sean (Margaret Ryndak) (late Diane) Rickard, the late Keenan Rickard (Chris [Steve Daily]), Donna (Dave) Hornik, Paul (Mary) Rickard, Joan (Roger) Fox, and the late Nancy Rickard. He loved and cherished his grandchildren, Brian, Eric (Stephanie Blood), and Kevin (Corwin Thompson) Staisiunas, Matt Rickard (Emily Ellis), Patrick Ryndak, Kaitlin and Bridgette Rickard (Tony Gust), Delia (Marcus Nuccio) and Diana Hornik, Madeline and Kathleen Rickard, Jean-Paul (Romina) Houed, and great grandchildren, Syllis, Kayden, and Graysen Staisiunas, Christopher and Haley Ramos, and Connor and Ryan Gust, as well as 11 brothers and sisters and many nieces and nephews. Loved ones may gather for visitation Tuesday January 31, from 4 to 8 pm, at **Foran Funeral Home**, 7300 W. Archer Ave. [55th Street just west of Harlem]. Visitation Wednesday at the funeral home from 8:30 am until time of prayers at 9:30 am. We will go in procession from the funeral home to Two Holy Martyrs Parish, St. Symphorosa Church, 6135 S. Austin Ave., Chicago, at 10:00 am. Interment Resurrection Cemetery, Justice. In lieu of flowers, consider donations to www.gardencenterservices.org. Please offer your thoughts and condolences to Cianain's "Ken" family on his personal tribute website at www.foranfuneralhome.com



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Rodin, Harold Z.

Harold Z. Rodin, 95, WWII veteran. Husband for 51 wonderful years to the late Shirley nee Marmor. Devoted partner for the last 25 years to Esther Silberman. Loving father of Curt (Linda) Rodin and Nancy (Stephen) Zabrin. Adoring grandfather of Joshua (Jill) Rodin, Aimee (Bradley) Lerner, Gayle Shifrin, and Kyle (Hailee) Zabrin. Very proud Papa Harold to 10 great-grandchildren. Died January 26, 2023. Harold and Shirley started Equipment International Ltd in 1964 and the business is now in its third generation. Harold lived for his family and cherished every member. He was an avid golfer who shot his age or better over 200 times and had 9 holes in one—the last one when he was 94. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, luriechildrens.org or the American Cancer Society, cancer.org. Graveside service, Wednesday, 11 AM at Shalom Memorial Park, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. Private family shiva. For information, including a link to view the service or to leave condolences: **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, www.shalom2.com or (847) 255-3520.



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Rogers, Larry Robert

Larry Rogers, Sr., father, Trial Lawyer, and founding partner of Power Rogers, LLP dies at 75 y/o. Larry valued his family most. He was a wonderful father, grandfather and human being. As the patriarch of the Rogers' family, he was a strong advocate for higher education. He was a trailblazer in the legal community. He leaves his life partner, Pamela Anderson; children, Larry (daughter-in-love, Ralonda) Ann Marie, and Frederic; 4 siblings, Gwendolyn, Riley, Brenda, and Anthony (Vanessa); 8 grandchildren, Trevor, Dominique, Jalen, Camryn, Erin, Sydney, Jordan and Sterling, and 3 great grandchildren, Naomi, Aiden and Jayce and a host of nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.



Services: 1/28/2023 Fellowship Baptist Church, 4543 S. Princeton Ave., Chicago, IL wake: 1:00-1:45 pm; funeral: 2:00-4:00pm Burial: 1/30/2023 Leak & Sons Funeral Homes, 7838 S. Cottage Grove, Chicago, IL departure 11:30 am to Oak Woods Cemetery, 1035 E. 67th Street, Chicago IL

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Survived by his loving wife Annette Rost; daughter Lori (Dan) Dodson, also grandchildren Claire and Logan Dodson. Preceded in death by his parents Frederick and Emily Rost. Visitation Tuesday January 31, 2023, from 11 am until the time of service 1 pm at **Anderson Memorial Home**, 21131 W. Renwick Rd., Plainfield, IL 60544. Services conclude at the funeral home, cremation rites to be accorded. (www.anderson-goodale.com) (815) 577-5250

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Rost, Robert "'Bob'"

Robert F. Rost "Bob"



Age 85 passed away Wednesday January 25, 2023, at St. Joseph Hospital in Joliet. Bob resided in the Carillon Lakes Community of Crest Hill for more than 20 years, and was an active member of the Railroad club, he formerly resided in Arlington Heights. Survived by his loving wife Annette Rost; daughter Lori (Dan) Dodson, also grandchildren Claire and Logan Dodson. Preceded in death by his parents Frederick and Emily Rost. Visitation Tuesday January 31, 2023, from 11 am until the time of service 1 pm at **Anderson Memorial Home**, 21131 W. Renwick Rd., Plainfield, IL 60544. Services conclude at the funeral home, cremation rites to be accorded. (www.anderson-goodale.com) (815) 577-5250

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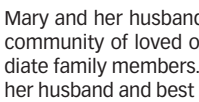
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Roth, Mary Kathleen

Mary Kathleen Roth (Basso), age 82, of Glenview, IL, passed away peacefully at her home on January 26, 2023. Mary was caring, gentle, and steadfastly loyal. Her fierce love of family and tradition, often inspired by her Swedish heritage, touched so many lives through welcoming people into her home for holidays, dinners, and more.

Mary and her husband joyfully knit together a large community of loved ones that went beyond immediate family members. Mary is preceded in death by her husband and best friend, Michael (Mike); her sister, Barbara; and her parents, Daniel and Margaret Basso. She is survived by her son, Michael (Marla) Roth; daughter, Jennie (Sam) Kramer; nieces, Molly (Erik Herman) Michet, Katie (Jay Curley) Michet, and Amy (Whitney Dorer) Michet; as well as her grandkids Michael and Marissa Roth, Margaret (Oliver) Munns, Grace, Jack, and Andrew Kramer, Nathan and Allison Curley, Oliver and Opal Dorchet; and sister-in-law, Judith Toler. A visitation will be held from 9:00-11:00 am on Friday, February 3 at St. Philip Lutheran Church, 1609 Pfingsten Rd, Glenview, where Mary was a founding member of 56 years. Funeral service will follow at 11:00 am. In lieu of flowers, contributions to St. Philip are appreciated. **Colonial-Wojciechowski Funeral Home** of Niles is entrusted with arrangements. Info 847-581-0536 or www.colonialfuneral.com



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Schnell, Robert A.

1928-2023 A veteran of the U.S. Navy and proud graduate of Carthage College and Northwestern University Dental School. Bob's finest accomplishment was capturing the heart of and marrying Sarah McGrath. Together for 69 years they raised five children: Margaret (Richard) Curry, Nancy, Julie (Patrick) Mulchrone, Susan and Matthew (Judy). He also had 11 grandchildren and 3 great grandkids. Preceded in death by his parents, Arthur and Erma Schnell. Bob was a true friend to many and one you could always count on. Aside from a long career as a dentist, he enjoyed gardening, fishing, all Chicago sports and being a handyman for anyone in need. Many of his fondest memories were from his time as a Boy Scout, which included earning the Order of the Arrow, achieving Eagle Scout & winning the Silver Beaver Award. He passed peacefully at home surrounded by family. In lieu of flowers, donations would be appreciated to the Salvation Army. A private memorial will be held.

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Southwick, William 'Bill'

Rev. William (Bill) Wilbur Southwick, a longtime Chicagoland resident, died on January 14, 2023 at 10PM in Berkeley, California. Born on July 27, 1938 in Peoria, Illinois to Lenore and Walter Southwick, where they owned two variety stores by the name of Southwick's.



He attended Depauw University in Greencastle, Indiana and seminary in Edinburgh, Scotland. He performed a service attended by Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip. Upon returning to the states, he graduated from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois and met Judith Southwick who had also grown up in Peoria. They were married on October 19, 1963. Their son Daniel Walter Southwick was born on May 27, 1966 and their daughter Laura Susan Southwick was born on September 14th, 1968.

He managed a church related coffee house and bookstore by the name of The Door which aimed to bring youth ministry to young people not church-affiliated. From 1975-1999, he served in a variety of leadership roles, including Executive Director, at Northwest Youth Outreach. He was recognized for his extraordinary leadership of the organization with the "Legacy of Leadership" award. He has always devoted his life to service and activism, he was heavily involved in the civil rights movement and youth drug prevention programs.

Following his retirement, he continued performing occasional religious services and was an active member of the Wellington Avenue United Church of Christ in Chicago. His granddaughter was born on January 14th, 1999 in San Francisco. He and Judy enjoyed spending their time traveling, with a particular affinity for France.

Bill Southwick is survived by his son Dan (Tiffany), and his granddaughter Isabella. He is preceded in death by his wife Judy who died in 2012 after a long battle with cancer and his daughter Laura who died in 2002 while on a business trip to China.

A memorial service will be held later this year (once planned, details will be shared with close friends and family). In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Laura Southwick Foundation (a fund of the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation).

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Spiewak, Thomas Martin

Thomas Martin Spiewak, 76, passed peacefully on January 21, 2023. Loving Father of Nancy (Justin) Jordan and Kimberly Spiewak Patino; Cherished Grandpa of Sofia Lily and Adam Emerson; Dear Brother of Robert (Deborah) Spiewak. Proud USPS clerk for 30+ years. An extended obituary can be found at www.cremation-society.com. Visitation will be at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church 4640 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago on Saturday, February 4 from 9 am to 10 am with Mass at 10 am. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Our Lady of Lourdes preferred.



Cremation Society
of Illinois

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Stack, Marie Martin Anderson

Marie Martin Anderson Stack, 92, of Downers Grove, formerly of Willowbrook and Hinsdale. Beloved mother of Marie G., Jim (Kathie), Joe (Katie), John (Julie), Kevin and Dennis (Shana) Stack. Devoted grandmother of Michael, Andrew, Erin, Nora, Charlie, Liam, Caitlin, Eli, Ben, Anna Grace, Riley and Connor. Loving great-grandmother of Vera. Dear sister of Lauretta (late James) Froelich and the late John "Jack" (Margaret) Anderson. Fond aunt of many. Visitation 10am until Funeral Mass 11am Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2023 at Notre Dame Catholic Church, 64 Norfolk Ave., Clarendon Hills, IL 60514. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to Haymarket Center, 932 W. Washington St., Chicago, IL 60607 appreciated. Marie was a member of the Notre Dame prayer group, and she enjoyed bridge, swimming and tennis. Arrangements entrusted to **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, Downers Grove at 630/964-6500 or www.hjfunerals.com.



Hallowell & James
Funeral Home

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Chicago Tribune

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Stahl, Lowell



Lowell I. Stahl, a resident of Northbrook, IL and Juno Beach/Jupiter, FL passed away on January 20, 2023 at the age of 89.

Stahl was born on December 5, 1933, during the height of the Great Depression, and was raised by his mother, Elinor S. Ryfeldt, on the near north side of Chicago. After graduating from Saint Patrick High School as President of his class, he was a proud servant in the Korean War.

Stahl acquired J. J. Schmidt, an insurance and real estate brokerage company, in the late 1950's, and in 1974 opened the first real estate franchise office in the Chicago area, and from that Stahl became the pioneer of real estate franchising in the Midwest, starting Century 21 of Northern Illinois. At the time of its sale, Century 21 Northern Illinois had over 700 franchise offices operating in 7 states. He then moved on to banking where he transformed a traditional "mutual" savings and loan institution to a local banking leader. Most recently, Stahl served as Owner and Chairman of PFS Financial, LLC.

His legacy lives on through the establishment of the Lowell I. Stahl Cultural Centre and Stahl Family Theater of Saint Patrick High School, as well as the Lowell Stahl Center for Entrepreneurship & Real Estate of Lewis University.

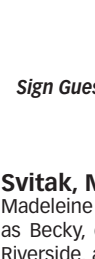
Lowell Stahl's life was a true, living example of the words he lived by - "Whatever You Do, Do What You Love". Stahl enjoyed the sport of fishing and golf immensely, but, his greatest hobby was hard work, sacrifice and dedication. Stahl is the cherished father of Jeffrey (Patricia) Stahl and Suzanne (Tim) Braley and devoted grandfather of James (Jay), Mackenzie, Karlee, Blaine, Madison, Christopher, Gina and Elizabeth. He was preceded in death by his wife Nancy A. Stahl, in 2006, after a marriage that lasted 51 years.

There will be a celebration of Lowell's life to occur at a date and time to be announced. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to The Stahl Family Charitable Foundation, a 501(c) 3 organization, to help fund medical research, 600 Andrew Lane, Lake Zurich, Illinois 60047.

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Susmano, MD, Armando

Armando Susmano, MD, age 90, passed away on January 26, 2023, at the Carlyle House in Kettering, Ohio. Armando was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He was a cardiologist at Rush-Presbyterian St. Lukes Hospital for forty years. Armando loved piano, composing and recorded a CD of cabaret tangos. He was a past president of the American Friends of Hebrew University and was also an avid philanthropist. Amando was the beloved husband of the late Lidia Susmano, nee Bolotin; loving father of Laura (Robert) Englander and Sandra (Nicholas) Doninger; treasured grandfather of four beautiful grandchildren: Elliott (Sandy) Englander, Carolyn (fiancé Max Roberts), Talia and Julian Doninger, adored great grandfather of George and Elizabeth Englander; cherished brother of Daniel (the late Sara, nee Bialiglovski) Susmano; dear uncle of Irene, Diana and Adrian (Bonnie) Susmano, Yenny (Hector) Luchansky, Teby (Deby) Bolotin, and Damian (Sonia) Bolotin; great uncle of Ryan and friend to many. Graveside service Sunday, 1:30 p.m. CT at Westlawn Cemetery, Section Memorial, 7801 W. Montrose, Norridge. The service will be livestreamed on Armando's webpage at www.goldmanfuneralgroup.com. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made to the Highland Park Strings, highlandparkstrings.org or Pilgrims Players, pilgrim-chamberplayers.org. For information: The **Goldman Funeral Group** (847) 478-1600.



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Svitak, Madeleine Rebecca

Madeleine Svitak, (nee Counelis) 94, also known as Becky, of Fort Collins, CO (formerly of Berwyn, Riverside, and Oak Brook, IL), peacefully passed on Saturday, January 14, 2023. Please visit www.goes-funeralcare.com for the full obituary and to share memories and condolences with the family.

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Wagner, Ray J.

Decorated WWII Army Veteran Ray J. Wagner, age 98, of Chicago passed away on January 14, 2023 in Palos Heights. Ray was born on July 9th, 1924, in Chicago, Illinois, the fourth child of Jacob and Susan (nee Boecker). The Wagners built a wonderful family for their six children, all who proudly demonstrated their patriotism by serving in the US military. Ray is preceded in death by his longtime companion of over 50 years, Elaine Mentlewicz, his dear friend Elsie Zultner, his siblings Robert, Marge and Virginia "Jean". He is survived by his brothers Edwin and James. Ray attended St. Raphael Elementary School, Tilden Tech and Lindblom High Schools. He entered the US Army in May 1943 and completed his basic and artillery training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Three months later, Ray was sent to England for D-Day training. As part of the historic First Wave of Allied troops, Ray landed on the shores of Normandy, France at Omaha Beach on the morning of June 6th, 1944. He was wounded on June 8th when a shrapnel from a German artillery shell hit him; he was sent to England to recover. Ray returned to France in June and rejoined the 111th Field Artillery Battalion, 29th infantry Division and fought across France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany. In Aachen, Germany he was transferred to the 283rd Field Artillery and acted as captain's driver and aid to the forward observer team at the Battle of the Bulge. Ray and his Lieutenant were responsible for the capture of German soldiers in Alsace-Lorraine. Ray was honorably discharged in December 1945, and for his valor and service, he was awarded the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Arrowhead, five battle stars and was inducted into the French Legion of Honor. After returning from his military service, he worked for over thirty years at Cities Service Company (now Citgo). He enjoyed an active lifestyle which included boating and roller skating. His military service was recently celebrated when he participated in an Honor Flight. Family and friends will gather for a memorial visitation Saturday, February 4th 2023 at 10:30 am with an 11:00 Mass at St Rene Goupil Catholic Church (Two Holy Martyrs Parish), 6949 W 63rd Pl, Chicago. Entombment Friday, February 17, 2023 at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, IL for a 12:30 pm committal service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hines VA Hospital. To learn more about Ray's valor in WWII, you may go to the Pritzker Military Museum and Library in Chicago. Info at 773-586-7900 or www.ridgefh.com



Ridge Funeral Home

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White, Bruce William

DECEMBER 25, 1952 - JANUARY 19, 2023



Bruce White, age 70, the founder and chairman of industry-leading hotel company White Lodging, died on Thursday, January 19, surrounded by his family. He had been undergoing treatment for cancer. Born in Gary, Indiana, the son of Dean & Barbara White, Bruce grew up in Crown Point, Indiana.

Bruce was a proud graduate of Purdue University, where he later served on its Board of Trustees. Bruce continued his support of Purdue through various programs, including the creation of the White Lodging - J.W. Marriott, Jr. School of Hospitality & Tourism Management and the transformation of the Union Club Hotel.

Bruce founded White Lodging in 1985, starting with a single hotel in Merrillville, Indiana and had since grown it into one of the country's largest privately held hospitality companies, which develops, owns and manages a portfolio of brands across the country. Transforming cities and skylines such as Indianapolis, Austin and Louisville, the innovative company is widely recognized as one of the industry's best. Bruce was a lifelong learner and "hospitalitarian" and truly loved every aspect of the business.

In 2008, following a lifelong passion for the American West and the outdoors, Bruce acquired Brush Creek Ranch in Saratoga, Wyoming. Brush Creek is the culmination of Bruce's extensive hospitality experience, continuous dedication to philanthropy, and unabashed passion for the sustainability of authentic western heritage. Originally intended as a getaway for family and friends, Bruce's vision transformed this getaway into a collection of three distinct luxury guest ranches, which are consistently recognized as some of the top resorts in the world.

Bruce married his beloved Beth (nee: Maloney) in 1987. Together, they built a values-driven life centered around family, friends, and community involvement. Bruce's many passions included travel, classic rock and country music, sports, wine, snow skiing, shooting, mountain biking, and hiking. More than anything, he loved sharing his passions with others, constantly entertaining family and friends and generously bringing people together through countless trips, events and celebrations.

In addition to his wife, Bruce is survived by his three adult children: Corinne, Conner and Patrick "Otis"; and one grandchild: Timothy.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, February 10, 2023 at Old St. Patrick's Church, 700 W. Adams Street, Chicago, Illinois. The service will begin at 11:00 am.

In lieu of flowers, gifts of remembrance may be made to Big Shoulders Fund, 212 W. Van Buren, Suite 900, Chicago IL 60607 or at www.bigshouldersfund.org.
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Wire, William James

William James Wire, Age 86, at rest on January 26, 2023. Bill was a Veteran in the United States Army serving as a Paratrooper in the 101st Airborne Division. Devoted husband of 61 years to Florence (nee Rigonì). Beloved son of the late Raymond and the late Ethel Wire. Beloved son-in-law of the late Fortunata (Giovannina) and the late Romolo Pierotti. Dear brother-in-law of Roland and Diane Pierotti, the late Laura Rigonì and the late Lino and Lillian Pierotti. Cherished uncle of Laura Lee (Andrew) DeNovo, Robert (Deborah) Pierotti, Dino (Gayle) Pierotti, Tony (Mary) Pierotti, Nick (Kristen) Pierotti, and Denise (John) Tsiveriottis. Loving uncle of 17 great nieces and great nephews and 22 great-great nieces and great-great nephews. Bill was an Administrator of SEIU Local #4 Health and Welfare Fund and Member of SEIU International Union Local #1. Bill was also a Supreme Past Regent of Royal Arcanum, Past Officer of Maroons Soccer Club, member of Mazzini-Verdi Club, Veneti nel Mondo, and the Chicago Accordion Club. Visitation will take place on Monday, January 30, 2023 from 3:00 until 8:00 p.m. at **Cumberland Chapels** 8300 W. Lawrence Ave. Norridge, IL. Funeral Tuesday, beginning at the funeral home at 9:30 a.m. and will then proceed to Our Lady Mother of the Church for 10:30 a.m. Mass. Interment will follow at Queen Of Heaven Cemetery in Hillside. Info 708-456-8300 or www.cumberland-chapels.com



CUMBERLAND
CHAPELS

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CHICAGO ACCUWEATHER



ABC7 Outlook:
Scattered snow lingers early. Mainly light lake-effect snow. Skies will slowly clear and much colder lows are expected with the fresh snow and clear skies.

Meteorologists Phil Schwarz, Cheryl Scott, Jaisol Martinez, Tracy Butler, Larry Mowry and Greg Dutra

CHICAGO FORECAST

Sunday Conditions
8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. 8 p.m.

AccuWeather.com UV Index™
0 1 1 1 0 0 0

RealFeel Temperature®
12 12 10 10 10 11 11

Sunday Activities
8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. 8 p.m.

Outdoor Activities Index
0 0 0 0 0 0 0

Fishing Index
0 0 0 0 0 0 0

The higher the **AccuWeather.com UV Index** number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection. 0-2 Low, 3-5 Moderate, 6-7 High, 8-10 Very High, 11+ Extreme. The patented **AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature** is an exclusive index of effective temperature based on eight weather factors. **Outdoor Activities and Fishing Indexes:** 0-2: Poor; 3-4: Fair; 5-6: Good; 7-8: Very Good; 9-10: Excellent.

CHICAGO ALMANAC

Saturday Temperatures
O'Hare through 4 p.m.

High 26
Low 19

Normal high 31
Normal low 18

Record high 60 (1914)
Record low -13 (1977)

Local Temperatures
through 6 p.m. Saturday

Location	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo
Aurora	26	14	31	14
Gary	30	21	33	19
Kankakee	33	21	32	16
Lansing	29	20	33	17
Midway	28	20	33	19
Romeoville	28	19	32	16
Valparaiso	29	19	34	18
Waukegan	23	15	30	15

Saturday Precipitation

2023 2022 Normal

Saturday* 0.12" 0.08" 0.06"

Month to date 2.50" 0.85" 1.82"

Year to date 2.50" 0.85" 1.82"

Snowfall

Saturday* 0.2" 0.0" 0.4"

Month to date 7.2" 13.9" 10.1"

Season to date 11.5" 15.8" 19.7"

*24-hour period ending 4 p.m. Saturday

Air Quality Index

Saturday's reading

Moderate

Sunday's forecast

Good

Primary pollutant

Particulates

Source: AirNow.gov

Sun and Moon

Sunrise 7:06 a.m. Mon. 7:05 a.m.

Sunset 5:01 p.m. 5:03 p.m.

Moonrise 11:20 a.m. 11:51 a.m.

Moonset 1:20 a.m. 2:27 a.m.

Full Last New First

Feb 5 Feb 13 Feb 20 Feb 27

Sunday's Planet Watch

Rise Set

Mercury 5:38 a.m. 2:59 p.m.

Venus 8:18 a.m. 6:59 p.m.

Mars 12:08 p.m. 3:29 a.m.

Jupiter 9:30 a.m. 9:45 p.m.

Saturn 7:58 a.m. 6:20 p.m.

Best viewing times today: Venus: 6 p.m. Mars: 6 p.m. Jupiter: 6 p.m. Saturn: 6 p.m. Mercury: 6:35 a.m.

SUNDAY

Day Night

High: 30 Low: 12

A bit of a.m. snow; mostly cloudy, breezy

POP: 55%

Winds: NNW 12-25 mph

MONDAY

Day Night

High: 17 Low: 3

An a.m. flurry; mostly cloudy, very cold

POP: 40%

Winds: NW 8-16 mph

TUESDAY

Day Night

High: 19 Low: 11

Mostly sunny, frigid; breezy in the p.m.

POP: 0%

Winds: WSW 10-20 mph

WEDNESDAY

Day Night

High: 29 Low: 22

Not as cold with clouds and sun

POP: 5%

Winds: SW 7-14 mph

THURSDAY

Day Night

High: 29 Low: 16

Intervals of clouds and sunshine

POP: 10%

Winds: N 6-12 mph

FRIDAY

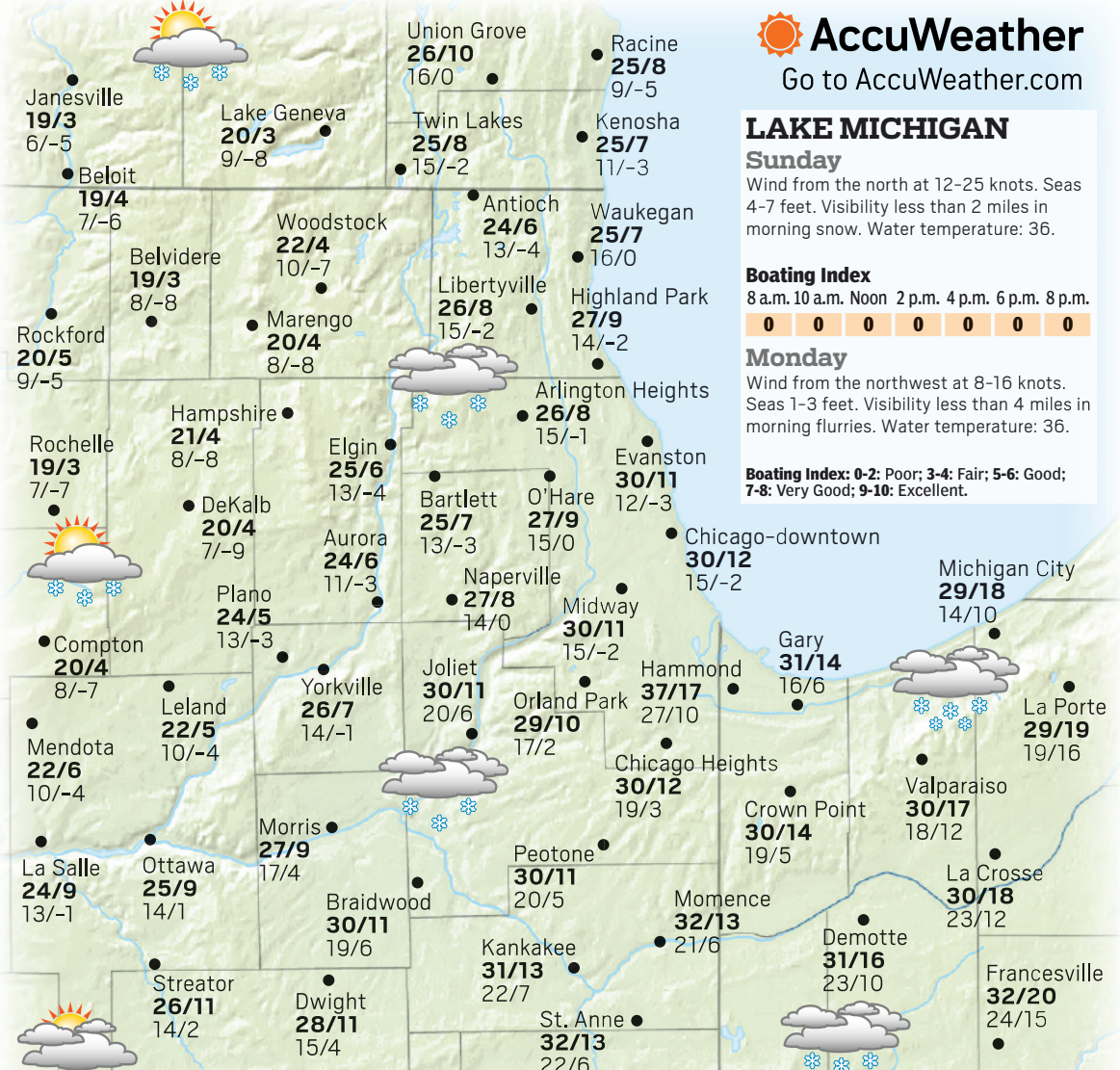
Day Night

High: 27 Low: 25

Mostly cloudy and chilly

POP: 25%

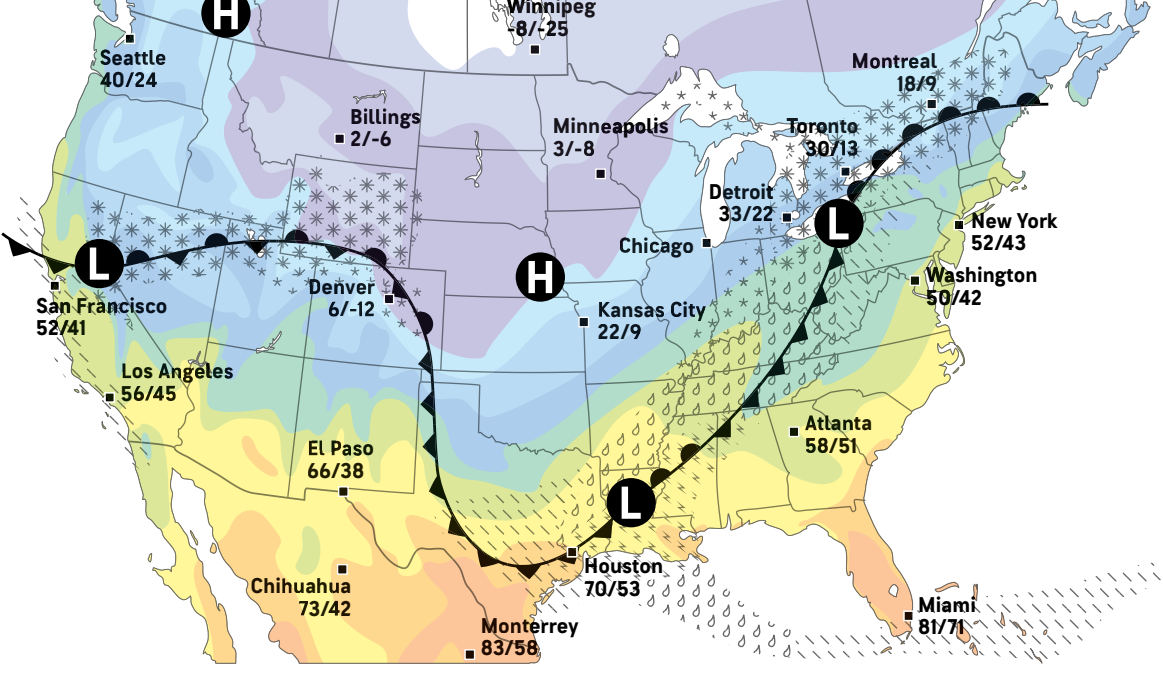
Winds: SSW 3-6 mph



Shown is Sunday's weather. Temperatures are Sunday's highs and Sunday night's lows with high and low RealFeel Temperatures shown below.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



Shows: Showers T-storms Rain Flurries Snow Ice Cold front Warm front Stationary front

-10s -0s 0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 100s 110s

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Abilene	44/26/s	29/23/i
Albany, NY	43/31/c	35/21/c
Albuquerque	51/29/s	53/30/s
Amarillo	33/10/pc	23/12/i
Anchorage	36/33/c	34/28/c
Asheville	54/42/c	62/42/pc
Aspen	30/18/sf	29/7/s
Atlanta	58/51/r	65/47/c
Atlantic City	50/42/pc	48/34/c
Austin	67/40/sh	42/38/sh
Baltimore	51/40/sh	55/34/c
Billings	2/-6/c	16/10/pc
Birmingham	59/54/r	62/43/c
Bismarck	0/-17/c	9/-7/pc
Boise	31/7/c	23/9/s
Boston	52/40/c	44/30/c
Brownsville	80/68/c	80/67/pc
Buffalo	40/24/sn	28/14/sf
Burlington, VT	33/16/sn	27/14/sn
Charleston, SC	69/56/c	71/54/sh
Charleston, WV	46/43/sh	48/30/c
Charlotte	58/48/c	62/45/pc
Chattanooga	51/49/sh	62/43/sh
Cheyenne	1/-10/sf	9/0/sf
Cincinnati	47/32/sh	36/20/sh
Cleveland	44/29/sn	31/17/sf
Colorado Spgs	16/-2/c	14/3/c
Columbia, MO	27/13/i	23/14/pc
Columbia, SC	64/51/r	67/47/c
Columbus, OH	46/31/sh	35/17/c
Concord	49/33/c	40/21/c
Corpus Christi	79/63/sh	65/54/c
Dallas	52/27/pc	39/31/sh
Daytona Beach	79/62/pc	82/62/pc
Denver	6/-12/c	3/1/sn
Duluth	0/-18/pc	-3/10/pc
El Paso	66/38/s	66/37/s

City	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Fairbanks	30/19/sn	25/11/sn
Fargo	-3/-19/pc	-1/-9/pc
Flagstaff	37/24/s	34/25/sn
Fort Myers	86/67/pc	84/67/s
Fort Smith	50/31/c	42/33/sh
Fresno	51/40/c	53/33/pc
Grand Junction	40/29/c	37/19/c
Great Falls	1/-6/c	18/8/pc
Harrisburg	46/40/c	52/33/sh
Hartford	51/38/pc	46/29/c
Helena, MT	3/-16/c	8/4/s
Honolulu	77/66/r	77/69/sh
Houston	70/53/t	62/53/c
Int'l Falls	-5/-22/pc	-2/-22/pc
Jackson, MS	65/54/t	57/47/c
Jacksonville	74/62/c	78/60/t
Juneau	33/28/s	36/34/sn
Kansas City	22/9/c	18/9/pc
Las Vegas	59/42/pc	49/35/c
Lexington	48/38/r	40/22/c
Lincoln	10/4/c	16/7/pc
Little Rock	62/38/r	43/29/c
Los Angeles	56/45/r	55/42/sh
Louisville	50/36/r	39/25/c
Macon	53/51/r	68/49/c
Memphis	59/36/r	42/30/c
Miami	81/71/pc	83/70/pc
Minneapolis	3/-8/pc	2/-8/pc
Mobile	68/61/t	69/57/c
Montgomery	62/56/r	70/52/c
Nashville	52/43/r	46/31/c
New Orleans	72/62/t	70/63/c
New York City	52/43/pc	48/33/c
Norfolk	60/45/pc	55/44/r
Oklahoma City	30/18/pc	24/20/i
Omaha	7/-2/c	10/6/pc
Orlando	81/63/pc	86/65/pc

City	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Palm Beach	81/71/c	82/70/pc
Palm Springs	65/48/pc	58/45/sh
Philadelphia	52/41/pc	55/33/c
Phoenix	69/47/s	60/48/c
Pittsburgh	44/35/sh	35/18/sn
Portland, ME	43/33/c	36/22/c
Portland, OR	41/24/s	40/28/s
Providence	53/38/pc	50/31/c
Raleigh	56/46/pc	61/44/pc
Rapid City	5/-17/sf	13/-3/pc
Reno	35/14/sn	27/12/s
Richmond	55/43/c	56/36/c
Rochester	40/25/sn	29/15/sn
Sacramento	48/34/sh	53/31/c
St. Louis	35/18/i	25/14/pc
Salem, OR	40/20/s	41/27/s
Salt Lake City	36/14/sn	22/8/c
San Antonio	71/47/sh	50/41/sh
San Diego	59/52/r	56/48/sh
San Francisco	52/41/sh	56/39/s
San Juan	83/72/pc	82/71/sh
Santa Fe	45/24/s	48/24/pc
Savannah	69/56/pc	73/55/sh
Seattle	40/24/s	38/31/s
Shreveport	68/46/sh	53/39/c
Sioux Falls	2/-12/c	2/-6/pc
Spokane	19/23/r	21/16/pc
Syracuse	41/23/r	28/19/sn
Tallahassee	67/61/t	75/60/t
Tampa	82/66/pc	79/67/pc
Topeka	21/8/c	21/12/pc
Tucson	69/40/s	64/38/pc
Tulsa	30/20/c	26/22/i
Washington, DC	50/42/sh	55/36/c
Wichita	24/10/c	23/13/c
Wilkes-Barre	47/42/sh	51/29/sh
Yuma	66/46/pc	63/46/c

WORLD CITIES

City	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Acapulco	87/70/s	85/70/s
Algiers	50/42/c	57/39/pc
Amsterdam	45/43/c	48/40/sh
Ankara	44/21/sn	40/25/c
Athens	55/42/sh	53/42/pc
Auckland	76/67/sh	75/67/r
Baghdad	68/49/s	61/52/c
Bangkok	84/65/pc	84/66/s
Barbados	83/73/s	82/74/pc
Barcelona	52/36/s	52/36/pc
Beijing	45/20/pc	47/25/pc
Beirut	68/53/pc	64/52/sh
Berlin	39/36/c	44/36/c
Bermuda	69/63/pc	71/66/pc
Bogota	69/45/pc	68/47/r
Brussels	40/38/c	47/35/sh
Bucharest	34/28/c	33/24/c
Budapest	37/24/c	40/35/c
Bueno Aires	80/70/s	81/72/s
Cairo	70/53/pc	70/51/s
Cancun	83/73/sh	83/73/s
Caracas	85/69/pc	87/72/s
Casablanca	59/32/s	67/34/s
Copenhagen	42/39/c	44/34/sh
Dublin	51/38/c	47/43/c
Edmonton	6/1/pc	15/6/sn
Frankfurt	35/30/c	44/32/c
Geneva	37/21/pc	41/31/c
Guadalajara	82/48/s	83/48/s
Havana	86/61/pc	86/64/s
Helsinki	34/32/c	38/28/c
Hong Kong	60/51/pc	65/57/pc
Istanbul	43/37/c	44/35/c
Jerusalem	62/47/c	60/42/c
Johannesburg	84/59/t	73/57/t
Kabul	36/26/sn	37/16/pc
Kingston	87/75/pc	87/74/sh

City	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Kyiv	32/23/c	34/30/c
Lima	78/69/c	78/69/c
Lisbon	54/36/s	55/38/s
London	48/42/c	49/38/pc
Madrid	47/24/s	51/22/s
Manila	86/76/pc	88/78/pc
Mexico City	76/47/s	77/48/s
Monterrey	83/58/pc	80/58/s
Montreal	18/9/sn	16/7/sn
Moscow	31/25/c	32/29/c
Munich	32/23/c	39/31/c
Nairobi	83/59/s	83/61/s
Nassau	82/70/pc	83/70/s
New Delhi	64/54/t	69/53/sh
Oslo	41/34/c	43/24/s
Ottawa	18/3/sn	16/1/sn
Panama City	91/70/c	89/71/pc
Paris	40/37/c	47/33/pc
Prague	32/26/c	38/33/c
Rio de Janeiro	88/76/t	88/75/pc
Riyadh	73/49/s	77/54/pc
Rome	54/31/s	52/37/pc
Santiago	90/57/s	88/60/s
Seoul	38/16/sf	37/20/s
Singapore	82/75/r	84/74/sh
Sofia	36/22/c	36/25/pc
Stockholm	40/35/s	39/30/sn
Sydney	88/72/t	76/69/r
Taipei	60/52/c	66/54/s
Tehran	49/36/pc	52/40/pc
Tokyo	45/36/s	52/36/s
Toronto	30/13/sn	25/11/sf
Trinidad	84/73/pc	83/72/s
Vancouver	34/22/s	35/30/s
Vienna	32/26/c	42/37/c
Warsaw	33/32/c	36/33/c
Winnipeg	-8/-25/s	-1/-26/s

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NATION & WORLD

Beating video cop team disbanded

Memphis chief: End of special unit ‘in the best interest of all’

By Adrian Sainz
Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — The Memphis police chief on Saturday disbanded the city’s so-called Scorpion unit after some of its officers beat to death Tyre Nichols, reversing an earlier statement that she would keep the unit intact.

Police Director Cere-lynn “CJ” Davis said she listened to Nichols’ relatives, community leaders and uninvolved officers in making the decision.

Referring to “the heinous actions of a few” that cast “a cloud of dishonor” on the unit, Davis said it was imperative that the department “take proactive steps in the healing process.”

“It is in the best interest of all to permanently deactivate the Scorpion unit,” she said in a statement. She said the officers currently assigned to the unit “agree unreservedly” with the step.

The unit comprises three teams of about 30 officers who target violent offenders in areas beset by high crime. It had been inactive since Nichols’ Jan. 7 arrest.

Protesters marching in downtown Memphis cheered when they heard the unit had been dissolved.

In an interview Friday, Davis said she would not shut down a unit if a few officers commit “some egregious act” and because she needs that unit to continue to work.

The disbanding was announced as the nation and the city struggled to come to grips with video showing police pummeling the Black motorist.



Tyre Nichols is seen on police video during a brutal attack by five Memphis officers Jan. 7 in Memphis, Tenn. CITY OF MEMPHIS

The footage released Friday left many unanswered questions about the traffic stop involving Nichols and about other law enforcement officers who stood by as he lay motionless on the pavement.

The five disgraced former Memphis Police Department officers, who are also Black, have been fired and charged with murder and other crimes in Nichols’ death three days after the arrest.

The recording shows police savagely beating Nichols, a 29-year-old FedEx worker, for three minutes while screaming profanities at him. Nichols calls out for his mother before his limp

body is propped against a squad car and the officers exchange fist-bumps.

The five officers — Tadarrius Bean, Demetrius Haley, Desmond Mills Jr., Emmitt Martin III and Justin Smith — face up to 60 years in prison if convicted of second-degree murder.

Davis has said other officers are under investigation, and Shelby County Sheriff Floyd Bonner said two deputies have been relieved of duty without pay while their conduct is investigated.

Rodney Wells, Nichols’ stepfather, said the family would “continue to seek justice” and noted that several other officers failed to render aid, making them

“just as culpable as the officers who threw the blows.”

A Memphis police spokeswoman declined to comment on the role played by other officers who showed up at the scene.

Cities nationwide had braced for demonstrations, but protests were scattered and nonviolent.

Blake Ballin, the lawyer for Mills, said in a statement Saturday that the videos “produced as many questions as they have answers.”

Some of the questions will focus on what Mills “knew and what he was able to see” and whether his actions “crossed the lines that were crossed by other officers during this incident,” Ballin

said.

Davis acknowledged that the police department has a supervisor shortage and said the lack of a supervisor in the arrest was a “major problem.”

Questions swirled around what led to the traffic stop in the first place. One officer can be heard saying that Nichols wouldn’t stop and then swerved as though he intended to hit the officer’s car. The officer said that when Nichols pulled up to a red light, the officers jumped out of the car.

But Davis said the department cannot substantiate the reason for the stop.

“We don’t know what happened,” she said, adding,

“All we know is the amount of force that was applied in this situation was over the top.”

On the video, officers can be seen holding Nichols down and repeatedly striking him with their fists, boots and batons as he screamed for his mother.

His mother’s home, where he lived, was only a few houses away from the scene of the beating, and his family said he was trying to get there.

The video is filled with violent moments showing the officers chasing Nichols and leaving him on the pavement propped against a squad car as they fist-bump and celebrate their actions.

It takes more than 20 minutes after Nichols is beaten and on the pavement before any sort of medical attention is provided, even though two fire department officers arrived on the scene with medical equipment within 10 minutes.

Throughout the videos, officers make claims about Nichols’ behavior that are not supported by the footage or that the district attorney and other officials have said did not happen.

In one of the videos, an officer claims that during the initial traffic stop Nichols reached for the officer’s gun and almost had his hand on the handle, which is not shown in the video.

After Nichols is in handcuffs and leaning against a police car, several officers say he must have been high. Later an officer says no drugs were found in his car, and another immediately counters that Nichols must have ditched something while he was running away.

Authorities have not released an autopsy report, but they have said nothing of note was found in the car.

Memphis police account of Nichols arrest lacking

Says ‘confrontation occurred’ after stop for reckless driving

By Mark Scolforo
Associated Press

Newly released video shows Memphis police officers battering motorist Tyre Nichols with punches and kicks and also using pepper spray and a baton, with Nichols howling in pain as he tried in vain to shield the blows.

Yet initially, in a statement posted on social media the day after the incident, Memphis police used vague language to describe the attack and said nothing to suggest the officers had acted with the callousness and violence captured by the video clips made public late Friday.

It’s the latest example in a long string of early police accounts regarding use of force that were later shown to have minimized or ignored violent and sometimes deadly encounters, including the account given by Minneapolis police after George Floyd’s killing in

2020.

In its first comment on the arrest the night of Jan. 7 of Nichols, a 29-year-old FedEx worker, by members of the city police’s so-called Scorpion unit, which was disbanded Saturday, the department said vaguely that the officers involved had been “routinely relieved of duty” during an investigation and an outside agency had been brought in.

As Nichols was dying in a hospital, the official police account said he had been stopped for reckless driving when “a confrontation occurred” and he fled on foot.

He was nearly home after having taken sunset photos at a park.

“While attempting to take the suspect into custody, another confrontation occurred; however, the suspect was ultimately apprehended,” police said Jan. 8. “Afterward, the suspect complained of having a shortness of breath, at which time an ambulance was called to the scene. The suspect was transported to St. Francis Hospital in critical condition.”

No mention was made of punches, kicks, pepper spray or baton strikes.

Police departments could increase trust among the public by being more transparent and forthcoming with initial statements about such encounters, Case Western Reserve Law School professor Ayesha Bell Hardaway said.

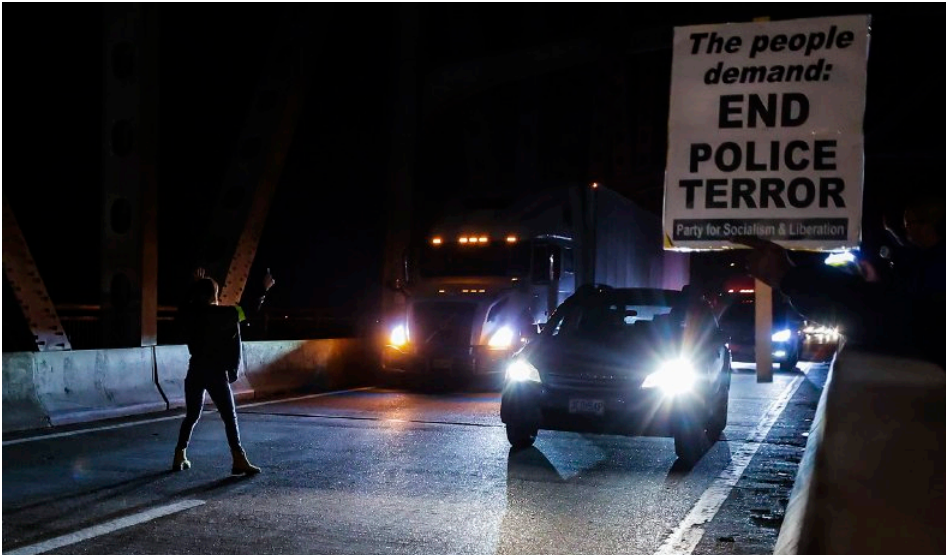
“It’s misleading,” Bell Hardaway said regarding the first police statement about the Nichols arrest. “It rings of a regular traffic stop, when in fact we know that these were not officers on patrol looking for speeding.”

“I wonder what prompted them to call out this incident and to acknowledge it at all,” Bell Hardaway said.

Asked about that initial statement, Memphis police spokeswoman Maj. Karen Rudolph on Saturday said only that like “all information that is released, it is preliminary.”

Nichols and the five officers, who have been charged with murder and fired from the department, are all Black.

It’s common for police agencies to issue informa-



A demonstrator tries to stop traffic along a bridge Friday in Memphis, Tenn., during a protest over the death of Tyre Nichols by city police. PATRICK LANTRIP/DAILY MEMPHIAN

tion on an incident with very little description when they lack complete details, often just “information that is so generic that it is effectively unhelpful,” said University of South Carolina law professor Seth Stoughton, a former police officer.

“I don’t actually think that’s a huge problem, so long as there is a detailed follow-up,” Stoughton said. “Agencies need to be attuned to the potential of lies by omission. Or deception, let’s not say lies, or being misleading by omission.”

Civil rights lawyer Michael Avery, a founder of the National Police Accountability Project, said police

and elected officials can have a stake in downplaying officers’ misconduct.

“They don’t want to acknowledge that these things are happening, particularly not in their town or on their watch,” Avery said. “I would say there’s a predisposition toward deniability.”

He said the use of passive tense in the initial Memphis police statement — that confrontations had occurred — disguised what really happened.

“It’s also not true,” Avery said. “He complained of shortness of breath? When you watch the video, he’s lying there either unconscious or semi-conscious. To

describe that as a complaint about shortness of breath is ridiculous.”

Nichols died Jan. 10. In announcing his death the following day, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation said he had “succumbed to his injuries” but did not describe their nature.

Only on Jan. 14, did the public learn that Nichols suffered cardiac arrest and kidney failure after being beaten by police, when his stepfather told local media.

More recently, lawyers for Nichols’ family have said an autopsy conducted by a forensic pathologist they hired found extensive internal bleeding.



Law enforcement gathers Saturday to work at the site of a shooting near Beverly Hills, Calif. ROBYN BECK/GETTY-APF

Police: At least 3 dead in latest Calif. shooting

By Amanda Holpuch
The New York Times

At least three people were killed and four others wounded in a shooting near Beverly Hills, California, early Saturday, police said.

The Los Angeles Police Department said that the shooting took place at a short-term rental at around 2:30 a.m.

Police responded to multiple calls of “a shooting with people down,” Sgt. Bruce Borihanh said Saturday.

He said police were investigating whether there was a party or other gathering at the residence when the shooting happened.

Borihanh said two of the people who were wounded were in critical condition and the other two were in stable condition. He said that officials were waiting for the coroner to identify those who were killed. Police did not provide the gender or ages of those killed or wounded.

The Los Angeles Fire De-

partment responded at 2:55 a.m. to the shooting. Responders pronounced three people dead at the scene and took two people to the hospital, said Margaret Stewart, a department spokesperson.

She said that about 15 minutes later, authorities received a call from a different hospital where two people who were wounded in the shooting had taken themselves. That hospital was not equipped to treat their injuries, and they were transported to another

hospital, Stewart said.

This month in the United States, there have been at least 43 shootings in which four or more people were wounded or killed, according to the Gun Violence Archive, a nonprofit research group.

The deadliest shooting this year took place Jan. 21 at a dance studio in Monterey Park, California. Eleven people were killed. Two days later, seven people were shot dead in Half Moon Bay, south of San Francisco.

China cracks down on protesters

Foreigners blamed while arrests are made to intimidate

By Vivian Wang and Zixu Wang
The New York Times

First, the accountant and the freelance writer were taken away. Then, the former tutor with a degree in English literature. And several days later, police came for the editor at the Beijing publishing house.

The four detained women were friends. They spent their free time in China's capital as many curious, creative-minded young people did: hosting book clubs, watching movies, discussing social issues like feminism and LGBTQ rights over barbecue.

When protests against coronavirus restrictions broke out in November across China, including in Beijing, they attended. And now, they are among the first people known to have been formally arrested in connection with those protests.

China is waging a campaign of intimidation against people who joined the demonstrations, which were the boldest challenge to the Communist Party's rule in decades and an embarrassing affront to its leader, Xi Jinping.

The party seems determined to warn off anyone who may have been emboldened by the remarkable outburst of public discontent, which was followed just days later by Beijing's abrupt decision to abandon COVID-19 restrictions. Since then, domestic challenges have mounted: Youth unemployment is high, the economy is slowing, and COVID-19 infections and deaths have accelerated.

Authorities have not officially announced the arrests and have largely avoided even acknowledging the protests. In seeking to tamp down unrest without further inflaming public anger, the party has often favored discreet repression.



Police officers move in on a protester at a demonstration against “zero-COVID” Nov. 27 in Shanghai. THE NEW YORK TIMES 2022

But news about the arrests — as well as the interrogations and detentions of many other protesters — has circulated widely among those who attended the demonstrations or who cheered them on as hope for a rebirth of civil society. For many, the crackdown is a fresh reminder of authorities' intolerance for even peaceful dissent and of the personal risks that come with testing Beijing.

The party is also working to discredit the protesters by casting them as tools of malevolent foreign powers. Beijing has long dismissed dissent at home — from calls for women's rights to pro-democracy activism to ethnic unrest — as the result of Western-backed subversion. The protests against “zero-COVID” were no exception: One Chinese diplomat suggested that some of the demonstrators had been “bought by external forces.”

The New York Times spoke with several people familiar with the cases of the four women who have been arrested. They requested anonymity out of fear of retaliation, to provide details about the women's arrests and interrogations. The people have been closely tracking the women's cases, including from weeks earlier when police began questioning them. They were either in touch with them before their arrests or with people close to them since they disappeared.

Police have asked the women about their use of overseas messaging platforms or involvement in feminist activities, such as reading groups, according to the people. Chinese propaganda has decried feminism as another tool of foreign influence.

The women, for their part, have said they were driven by their own convictions and a belief that they

had a right, even in China, to voice them. Before she was detained in December, one of the women, Cao Zhixin, the editor, recorded a video that she entrusted to friends to share if she went missing.

“We care about this society,” Cao, 26, said in the video, in which she said that the other three women — Li Yuanjing, the accountant; Li Siqi, 27, the freelance writer; and Zhai Dengrui, the former literature student — had already been taken away.

“At the scene, we respected public order, we didn't provoke any conflicts with the police,” Cao continued. “So why do you still have to secretly take us away?”

It is far from clear that the four women were targeted because of their interest in feminism. Other protesters may have also been arrested. Some Chinese social media users have tried to publicize the names of people missing since the protests, with

various crowdsourced lists naming around two dozen people.

But the legal system is opaque and social media is heavily censored, making a thorough accounting difficult. Under Chinese law, police can detain people for more than a month without formally arresting them.

But even if authorities had not initially singled the women out for their feminist activities, once they were under investigation, those activities could have made them a target, said Lu Pin, a Chinese feminist activist who now lives in the United States, having faced harassment at home.

“The Chinese government has to look for an explanation that fits their logic, and they don't believe that people organize on their own, according to their own political feeling. There must be a ‘black hand,’” Lu said. “In China, feminism is the last active, visible social

movement.”

The protest in Beijing on Nov. 27 began as a candlelight vigil for at least 10 people who died in an apartment fire in the far-western region of Xinjiang in November. Many Chinese believed that COVID-19 restrictions had prevented the victims from escaping, although the government denied that.

The women had attended out of grief, Cao, the editor, said in her video.

“We have legitimate emotions to express when our compatriots are killed. We are full of sympathy for those who lost their lives — that is why we went,” Cao said.

That night, Beijing police were relatively restrained, even as the vigil turned into a street protest calling for an end to “zero-COVID” and greater political freedoms. Officers filmed participants but did not aggressively detain people on site.

One official, witnessed by a Times reporter, told protesters that he also mourned for those who had died in the fire. Another reminded marchers, “No one has touched you.”

But that soon changed. In the days after, people who had attended protests in Beijing and other cities described being summoned or visited at home by officers, who asked why they had gone to the demonstrations, and with whom. Reached by telephone, an official with the Beijing public security bureau said that no one would be available for comment until after the weeklong Lunar New Year holiday.

Lu, the feminist activist in the United States, said the police's evident focus on people who were not prominent organizers, or even apparently part of any larger group, underscored how authorities had decimated civil society.

“After all the repression, in the eyes of the police, these people have become the most threatening forces,” she said.



Israeli security forces escort a woman who was blocking vehicles during a protest Saturday night at the Shuafat refugee camp in east Jerusalem. AHMAD GHARABLI/GETTY-AFP

Israeli PM Netanyahu reveals punitive measures for attacks

By Josef Federman
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Saturday announced a series of punitive steps against the Palestinians, including plans to beef up Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank, in response to a pair of shooting attacks that killed seven Israelis and wounded five others.

The announcement cast a cloud over a visit this week by U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and threatened to further raise tensions following one of the bloodiest months in the West Bank and east Jerusalem in several years.

Netanyahu's Security Cabinet, which is filled by hard-line politicians aligned with the West Bank settlement movement, approved the measures in the wake of a pair of shootings that included an attack outside an east Jerusalem synagogue on Friday night in which seven people were killed.

Netanyahu's office said the cabinet agreed to seal off the attacker's home immediately ahead of its demolition. It also plans to cancel social security benefits for the families of attackers, make it easier for Israelis to get gun licenses and step up efforts to collect illegal weapons.

The announcement said that in response to public Palestinian celebrations over the attack, Israel would take new steps to “strengthen the settlements” this week. It gave no further details, and there was no immediate response from Washington.

The weekend shootings followed a deadly Israeli raid in the West Bank on Thursday that killed nine Palestinians, most of them militants. In response, Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip fired a barrage of rockets into Israel, triggering a series of Israeli airstrikes in response. In all, 32 Palestinians have been killed in fighting this month.

Early Sunday, the Israeli military said security guards in the West Bank settlement of Kedumim had shot a Palestinian who was armed with a handgun and released a photo of what it said was the weapon. There

were no further details.

It remains unclear whether the Israeli steps will be effective. The attackers in the weekend shootings, including a 13-year-old boy, both appear to have acted alone.

In addition, Netanyahu could come under pressure from members of his government, a collection of religious and ultranationalist politicians, to take even tougher action. Such steps could risk triggering more violence and potentially drag in the Hamas militant group in Gaza.

Friday's shooting, outside a synagogue in east Jerusalem on the Jewish sabbath, left seven Israelis dead and three wounded before the gunman was killed by police. It was the deadliest attack on Israelis in 15 years.

In response to the shooting, Israeli police beefed up activities throughout east Jerusalem and said they had arrested 42 people, including family members, who were connected to the shooter. But later Saturday, a Palestinian teen opened fire elsewhere in east Jerusalem, wounding an Israeli man and his adult son.

Trump kicks off 2024 run by saying he's ‘more angry now’

By Meg Kinnard, Holly Ramer and Jill Colvin
Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Former President Donald Trump kicked off his 2024 White House bid with stops Saturday in New Hampshire and South Carolina, events in early-voting states marking the first campaign appearances since announcing his latest run in November.

“Together we will complete the unfinished business of making America great again,” Trump said at an evening event in Columbia to introduce his South Carolina leadership team.

Trump and his allies hope the events in states with enormous power in selecting the nominee will offer a show of force behind the former president after a sluggish start to his campaign.

“They said, ‘He's not doing rallies, he's not campaigning. Maybe he's lost that step,’” Trump said at the New Hampshire GOP's annual meeting in Salem, his first event.

But, he told the audience of party leaders, “I'm more angry now and I'm more committed now than I ever was.” In South Carolina, he further dismissed the speculation by saying that “we have huge rallies planned, bigger than ever before.”

Trump's backers have been reaching out to political operatives and elected officials to secure support for the former president at a critical point when other Republicans are preparing their own expected challenges.

In New Hampshire, Trump promoted his agenda, including immigration and crime, and said his policies would be the opposite of President Joe Biden's. He cited the Democrats' move to change the election calendar, costing



Former President Donald Trump shakes hands with GOP Sen. Lindsey Graham on Saturday in Columbia, S.C., after an earlier campaign stop in New Hampshire. ALEX BRANDON/AP

New Hampshire its leadoff primary spot, and accused Biden, a fifth-place finisher in the state in 2020, of “disgracefully trashing this beloved political tradition.”

Later in South Carolina, Trump said he planned to keep the state's presidential primary as the “first in the South” and called it “a very important state.”

In his speech, he hurtled from criticism of Biden and Democrats to disparaging comments about transgender people, mockery of people promoting the use of electric stoves and electric cars, and reminiscing about efforts while serving as president to increase oil production, strike trade deals and crack down on migration at the U.S.-Mexico border.

While Trump remains the only declared 2024 presidential candidate, potential challengers, including Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, former Vice President Mike Pence and former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, who was Trump's ambassador to the United Nations, are expected to get their campaigns underway in the

coming months.

In South Carolina, Gov. Henry McMaster, U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham and members of the state's congressional delegation attended Trump's event at the Statehouse.

Trump's team has struggled to line up support from South Carolina lawmakers, even some who backed him before. Some have said that more than a year out from primary balloting is too early to make endorsements or that they're waiting to see who else enters the race. Others have said it is time for the party to move past Trump to a new generation of leadership.

Dave Wilson, president of conservative Christian nonprofit Palmetto Family, said some conservative voters may have concerns about Trump's recent comments that Republicans who opposed abortion without exceptions had cost the party in the midterms.

“It gives pause to some folks within the conservative ranks of the Republican Party as to whether or not we need the process to work itself out,” Wilson said.

WAR IN UKRAINE

Weapons subject of ‘fast-track’ talks

Ukraine says it is engaged with West on missiles, planes

By Susie Blann
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Ukraine and its Western allies are engaged in “fast-track” talks on the possibility of equipping the invaded country with long-range missiles and military aircraft, a top Ukrainian presidential aide said Saturday.

Mykhailo Podolyak, an adviser to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, said Ukraine’s supporters in the West “understand how the war is developing” and the need to supply planes capable of providing cover for the armored fighting vehicles that the United States and Germany pledged at the beginning of the month.

But in remarks to online video channel Freedom, Podolyak said that some of Ukraine’s Western partners maintain a “conservative” attitude to arms deliveries, “due to fear of changes in the international architecture.” Russia and North Korea have accused the West of prolonging and taking a direct role in the war by sending Kyiv increasingly sophisticated weapons.

“We need to work with this. We must show (our partners) the real picture of this war,” Podolyak said, without naming specific countries.

The U.S. and Germany agreed Wednesday to share advanced tanks with Ukraine along with the Bradley and Marder vehicles promised earlier, a decision that led to criticism not only from the Kremlin but from the prime minister of NATO and European Union member Hungary.

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban asserted Friday that Western countries providing weapons and money to assist Ukraine in



After a Russian missile attack Saturday, a woman walks in a residential area of Kostiantynivka, Ukraine. **ANDRIY DUBCHAK/AP**

its war with Russia have “drifted” into becoming active participants in the conflict. Orban has refused to send weapons to neighboring Ukraine and sought to block EU funds earmarked for military aid.

The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry said it would summon Hungary’s ambassador to complain about Orban’s remarks. A ministry spokesperson, Oleg Nikolenko, said Orban told reporters that Ukraine was “a no-man’s land” and compared it to Afghanistan.

President Joe Biden’s announcement that the U.S. would send 31 M1 Abrams tanks to Ukraine reversed months of arguments by Washington that they were too difficult for Ukrainian troops to operate and maintain. The U.S. decision

persuaded German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, who had expressed concern about a unilateral action drawing Russia’s wrath, to agree to send 14 Leopard 2 tanks from Germany’s stocks and to allow European countries with tanks to send some of theirs.

Western weapons have proven essential to Ukraine’s defense while stoking ever-higher tensions with Moscow. Russia’s Defense Ministry said Saturday that Ukrainian forces used U.S.-made HIMARS rockets to strike a hospital in the eastern Ukrainian town of Novoaidar, killing 14 people.

Novoaidar is located in Luhansk province, which is almost entirely under the control of Russian forces or Russian-backed separat-

ists. The Russian Defense Ministry alleged the hospital was deliberately targeted. Its claim of a strike in Novoaidar could not be immediately verified.

“A deliberate missile attack on a known operating civilian medical institution is an unconditional grave war crime of the Kyiv regime,” the ministry said, according to Russian news agencies.

Amid the news of the Western pledges of heavy tanks, Russia bombarded Ukraine this past week. The attacks continued Saturday, when Russian missiles struck the city of Kostyantynivka in eastern Ukraine’s Donetsk province.

The missiles fell in a residential area, killing three civilians and wounding 14, Gov. Pavlo Kyrylenko said.

In a separate Telegram post earlier Saturday, Kyrylenko reported that Russian attacks in the province killed four civilians in all and wounded seven others in 24 hours.

Russian rockets hit a residential area the Donetsk town of Chasiv Yar on Friday night, killing two people and wounding five more, the governor said.

Chasiv Yar lies on a hill strategically located for the defense of city of Bakhmut, and has come under intensified Russian shelling. Capturing Bakhmut would allow Russian troops to disrupt Ukrainian supply lines and potentially pave the way for them to threaten Sloviansk and Kramatorsk, the largest remaining Ukrainian-held cities in the country’s east.

Russian forces continued ground attacks around Bakhmut and Avdiivka, another Donetsk city to the south, while Ukrainian troops were on the offensive in southern and northeast Ukraine, the Ukrainian military said in a Saturday morning update.

The General Staff of the Ukrainian Armed Forces said Russian troops “are defending themselves” near Lyman in Luhansk and Kharkiv provinces north of Donetsk, as well in Kherson and Zaporizhzhia provinces in the south.

In the same update, the military reported that Russian forces launched 10 missile strikes, 26 airstrikes and 81 shelling attacks on Ukrainian territory between Friday and Saturday mornings.

NEWS BRIEFING

Pope’s handwritten note clarifies remarks on homosexuality, sin

From news services

ROME — Pope Francis has clarified his recent comments about homosexuality and sin, saying he was merely referring to official Catholic moral teaching that teaches that any sexual act outside of marriage is a sin.

And in a note Friday, Francis recalled that even that black-and-white teaching is subject to circumstances that might eliminate the sin altogether.

Francis first made the comments in an interview Tuesday in which he declared that laws criminalizing homosexuality were “unjust” and that “being homosexual is not a crime.”

As he often does, Francis then imagined a conversation with someone who raised the matter of the church’s official teaching, which states that homosexual acts are sinful, or “intrinsically disordered.”

“Fine, but first let’s distinguish between a sin and a crime,” Francis said in the imagined conversation. “It’s also a sin to lack charity with one another.”

His comments calling for the decriminalization of homosexuality were hailed by LGBTQ advocates as a milestone that would help end harassment and violence against LGBTQ persons. But his reference to “sin” raised questions about whether he believed that merely being gay was itself a sin.

The Rev. James Martin, an American Jesuit who runs the U.S.-based Outreach ministry for LGBTQ Catholics, asked Francis for clarification and printed the pope’s handwritten response on the Outreach website late Friday.

In his note, Francis reaffirmed that homosexuality “is not a crime,” and said he spoke out “in order to stress that criminalization

is neither good nor just.”

“When I said it is a sin, I was simply referring to Catholic moral teaching, which says that every sexual act outside of marriage is a sin,” Francis wrote in Spanish, underlining the final phrase.

But in a nod to his case-by-case approach to pastoral ministry, Francis noted that even that teaching is subject to consideration of the circumstances, “which may decrease or eliminate fault.”

Holland climate protest: Hundreds of climate activists blocked one of the main roads into The Hague on Saturday, defying attempts to prevent their protest that have sparked concerns about restrictions on the right to demonstrate in the Netherlands.

The protesters, many waving colored flags with the symbol of environmental group Extinction Rebellion, gathered on a road near the temporary home of the Dutch parliament.

Protesters who ignored police orders to leave were picked up and carried away one by one to waiting buses and driven away.

Last week, six Extinction Rebellion activists were detained by authorities on suspicion of sedition linked to calls to stage the protest.

A judge on Friday upheld an order banning another activist from the area for 90 days. Extinction Rebellion said that he ignored the order and attended the protest. A lawyer for the group said the order was a way of “taking away the right of climate activists to demonstrate.”

Sri Lanka politics: Sri Lanka’s president suspended Parliament until Feb. 8, when he said he would announce a new set of long-term policies to address a



Ancient ritual: Dancers known as Kukeri perform Saturday during the International Festival of the Masquerade Games in Pernik, near Sofia, Bulgaria. Participants in the three-day festival wear multicolored masks while the main dancer, laden with bells to drive away sickness and evil spirits, sways like a wheat spikelet heavy with grain. **NIKOLAY DOYCHINOV/GETTY-AFP**

range of issues including an unprecedented economic crisis that has engulfed the nation for months.

President Ranil Wickremesinghe issued an extraordinary decree suspending Parliament as of midnight Friday.

The government did not give a clear reason for the move, but Wickremesinghe’s office in a statement said his address to lawmakers next month will announce new policies and laws, which will be implemented until the centenary celebrations of Sri Lanka’s independence in 2048.

Unsustainable debt, a severe balance-of-payment crisis and lingering scars of the COVID-19 pandemic have led to a severe shortage of essentials such as fuel, medicine and food.

Soaring prices triggered massive protests last year that ousted Wickremesinghe’s predecessor, Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

Peru elections: Peruvian

President Dina Boluarte called on Congress Friday to approve a proposal to move elections forward to late this year, a marked concession from the leader who has been facing daily protests that have left almost 60 people dead.

Boluarte had already expressed support for holding national elections in April 2024, rather than the previously scheduled 2026, but support seems to be growing among lawmakers to move them up to December 2023.

Moving elections to later this year could help the country “get out of this quagmire we’re in,” Boluarte said Friday.

Boluarte, the former vice president, became president on Dec. 7 after her predecessor, Pedro Castillo, was impeached for trying to dissolve Congress.

Castillo was later arrested and detained.

India jets crash: Two Indian air force jets crashed in the

central state of Madhya Pradesh on Saturday, killing one pilot, officials said.

The Indian air force said on Twitter the aircraft were on routine operational training mission. One of the three pilots involved sustained fatal injuries, and an inquiry has been ordered to determine the cause of the accident.

Two pilots managed to eject safely, but it is not clear whether the planes collided, Adarsh Katiyar, additional director general of police, told the Press Trust of India news agency.

Columbus Day lawsuit: A federal appeals court has upheld a lower court’s dismissal of a lawsuit alleging that the mayor of Philadelphia discriminated against Italian Americans in renaming the city’s Columbus Day holiday to Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

A U.S. District judge ruled a year ago that the plaintiffs, a council member and three Italian American heritage

groups, hadn’t been harmed by Mayor Jim Kenney’s executive order, and therefore none of them had standing to sue over the issue.

Judge David Porter, writing for the three-judge panel of the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Friday, said the government “does not violate the Equal Protection Clause every time it affirms or celebrates an ethnicity. Otherwise, Columbus Day itself would arguably have been an equal protection violation — but of course it wasn’t.”

As it stands, “Irish American city employees who wish to celebrate St. Patrick must take a personal day,” and the city doesn’t close for Yom Kippur or give time off for the Lunar New Year, the court said.

The plaintiffs might have a case if the city celebrated every ethnicity but “conspicuously excluded” Italian Americans, but not from selective celebration of particular ethnicities alone, the court said.

MASS SHOOTINGS

Monterey Park coping with tragedy

California city bills itself as cultural hub for Asian Americans

By Terry Tang and Deepa Bharath Associated Press

MONTEREY PARK, Calif. — For decades, Monterey Park has been a haven for Asian immigrants seeking to maintain a strong cultural identity — and a culinary heaven worth visiting for anybody near Los Angeles craving authentic Asian cuisine.

Signs across the vibrant suburb are written in English and Chinese. Families raise bilingual children. And residents in their golden years enjoy karaoke, the Chinese tile game mah jong and — as the outside world learned last week after a horrific mass shooting — ballroom dancing.

“It’s a very quiet, humble place. And we mind our own,” says Denny Mu, a second-generation American who runs the popular Mandarin Noodle House started by his grandfather.

That sense of peace was shattered after a gunman killed 11 people in their 50s, 60s and 70s and wounded nine others Jan. 21 during a Lunar New Year celebration at the Star Dance Ballroom.

But while residents of the tight-knit community work through the trauma — just as they did during the coronavirus pandemic, when anti-Asian sentiment rose nationwide — the tragedy has only sharpened their feelings about what makes Monterey Park so special and worth protecting.

Kristina Hayes, who started staging tango events at Star Ballroom when the studio reopened after the pandemic, said dance is “hugely important” for Monterey Park’s seniors.

“It’s a pastime, hobby and even competitive — but in the best way possible.”

Mu, whose restaurant is known for its scallion



A family gathers at a memorial near the Star Ballroom Dance Studio in Monterey Park, Calif. A gunman killed multiple people at the studio. ASHLEY LANDIS/AP

pancakes and beef noodle soup, said he has no plans to leave and believes the slowdown in visitors over the past week will be fleeting.

“It’s the food mecca, especially if you like any sort of Asian food,” said Mu, who is Chinese.

Monterey Park’s transformation to a predominantly Asian city was the brainchild of Fred Hsieh, a Chinese immigrant who was also a savvy real estate developer.

He is credited with first coining the city’s nickname of the “Chinese Beverly Hills.” In the ’70s and ’80s, he used that phrase in Asian newspapers abroad to lure people from Hong Kong and Taiwan to the land of opportunity.

He cleverly highlighted the city’s area code, 818. In Chinese culture, the number eight is seen by some as a symbol of prosperity and

good fortune.

When Hsieh died in 1999, Monterey Park had at the time become the only U.S. city with an Asian-majority population, with 65% Asian residents, according to an Associated Press obituary. Today, nearly 70% of the residents are Asian, mostly of Chinese descent.

As residents deal with the shock and grief that the shooting brought, they hope people will continue to see the city of about 60,000 for the vibrant community it is.

The back story of Mandarin Noodle House, which at 43 years old remains one of the oldest restaurants in Monterey Park, is the story of many Asian immigrant families who have stayed faithful to the community and elevated it beyond some cookie-cutter suburb.

For decades, the city has been revered as the flagship

location in Southern California for authentic Asian food, particularly Chinese cuisine from various regions.

For the 36-year-old Mu, the regular customers at Mandarin Noodle House are why he can’t see himself leaving Monterey Park.

“It’s nice to go to a restaurant and ask the customer ‘How was your day? How was your kid’s dance recital? ... All that stuff,’” Mu said. “It’s all about community.”

Hayes said her specialty over the years has been creating dance programs for seniors, especially those who have lost mobility or have dementia. Some dedicated dancers who came to the ballroom showed up after work and on the weekends.

Betina Hsieh, a second-generation Taiwanese-American and an associate professor at Cal-

ifornia State University, Long Beach’s College of Education, knows at least one person whose parents went to Star Ballroom. Dance halls and churches in Asian communities have traditionally been safe spaces for older people.

“There is a big separation or tension between immigrant parents and people like me who are second-generation,” Hsieh said. “Our families bought into this idea of helping us kids assimilate. But they remained in their ethnic enclaves and mingled among themselves, which means they have limited spaces to gather as they age.”

Kevin Mok, 32 and of Chinese descent, runs the Japanese dessert shop Mr. Obanyaki with his parents and brother. Since the shooting, he still feels “there’s a sense of fear in this community,” because there are

fewer people on the streets.

“I feel like my sales have dropped like 15 to 20% at night. Hopefully, it’ll come back,” Mok said.

The gunman — a 72-year-old Asian man known in the community — shot and killed himself.

Hsieh, the professor, grew up in Santa Clarita, but has deep connections to Monterey Park. Her grandparents lived there or went there for doctor’s appointments because it was the only place they could find Mandarin-speaking physicians.

“It was the first ‘ethnoburb’ in Southern California for Asians,” Hsieh said. “Monterey Park was this place we had before we even knew how to have an Asian-American identity, a place where our families could gather and stay connected to their home and culture.”

Shootings force bystanders to become heroes

People realize ‘the only one who’s going to protect you is you’

By Julie Bosman, Mitch Smith and Eliza Fawcett The New York Times

Jason Seaman, a seventh-grade science teacher in Noblesville, Indiana, was helping a student with a test when a classmate returned from the bathroom, drew a handgun from his pocket and began firing.

Seaman, now 34, threw a mini basketball at the student and then charged, swiftly disarming him.

“There was no choice — it was either do something, or die,” he said in an interview Tuesday, recalling the shooting in May 2018 that left him with gunshot wounds in the abdomen, a forearm and a hand. “So when you’re in that literal life-or-death situation, I’m dang sure I’m going to fight.”

“Run, Hide, Fight” became the federal guidance on how to react to an active shooting after the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, 2012, with Americans encouraged to consider confronting a gunman if they cannot safely flee or stay out of sight.

In the years since, it has been drilled into Americans’ heads in schools, in workplaces and in private training sessions, a bleak mantra for a nation with hundreds of millions of guns and where mass shootings have become a plague.

Advocates for stronger gun laws contend that no American should have to put their body on the line in the face of a gunman armed with military-style weapons at a dance hall, a religious service, a mall or a high school.

But in high-profile massacres in recent months, the last resort to fight has been taken up by bystanders, who have attacked gunmen and



Jason Seaman, left, a teacher who was shot while disarming a student shooter in Noblesville, Ind. AJ MAST/THE NEW YORK TIMES Riley Howell, right, a North Carolina college student who died while stopping a classroom shooting. MATTHEW WESTMORELAND

stopped them before they could continue.

In Colorado Springs, Colorado, in November, two bystanders, including an Army veteran, physically subdued an assailant who had entered a nightclub and killed five people in a matter of seconds. In suburban Indianapolis last summer, an armed bystander fatally shot a gunman who had already killed three people in a mall food court. And in Los Angeles County, California, last weekend, authorities said, an employee of a dance hall wrestled a pistol out of the hands of a gunman who had already shot 20 people at another venue and seemed bent on more mayhem.

“This could have been much worse,” said Sheriff Robert Luna of Los Angeles County.

Experts say that bystander intervention in active shootings ends the threat in a significant minority of cases, and the forces that drive people to intervene are varied.

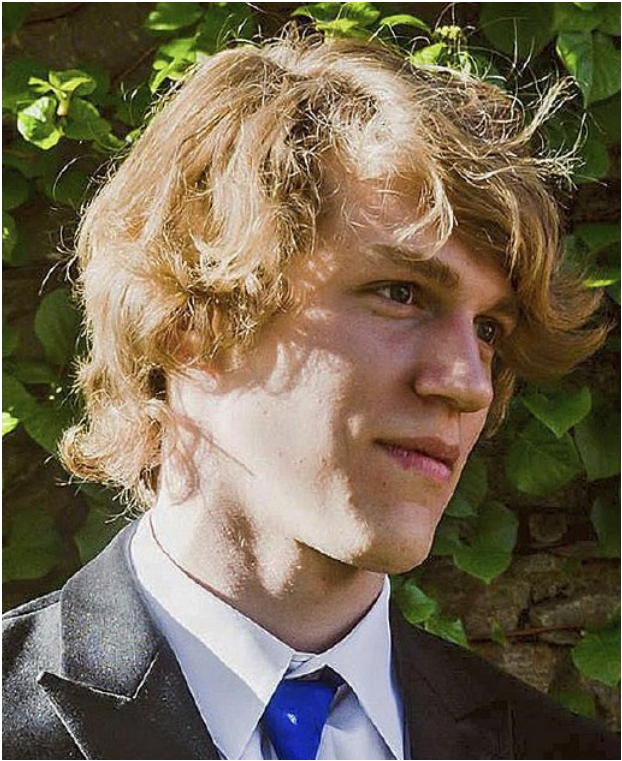
But in many situations,

bystanders are unable to run or hide, trapped in classrooms or churches with attackers who are armed with high-powered weapons.

Gun massacres at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida, and Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, are all examples of shootings where police officers or school security personnel were criticized as being slow to help civilians once a shooting was underway.

Some Americans confronted by an armed assailant in more recent incidents have understood the situation instantly: They are on their own.

“I feel like people are starting to come to the realization that the only one who’s going to protect you is you,” said Jack Wilson, a county commissioner in Hood County, Texas, who teaches concealed-carry classes. “People have to be willing to intervene to stop



these kinds of issues.”

He was one of those bystanders: In 2019, Wilson was attending Sunday services at his church in White Settlement, Texas, when a gunman opened fire, killing two people. Wilson pulled out his own gun and fired, killing the assailant with a single shot.

“The only way law enforcement is going assist you is if they’re in your driveway,” he said. “That’s not a slam against law enforcement. They can’t be everywhere.”

Deputing the public as a tool of last resort has not caused the pace of mass shootings to slow down. Already this year, at least 69 people have died in at least 39 separate shootings in which four or more people were injured or killed, according to the Gun Violence Archive.

“If anyone’s saying, ‘I’m hearing more about active shooters being tackled or stopped by civilians,’ it may be true that is occurring more often,” said Adam

Lankford, a professor of criminology at the University of Alabama. “But it could be a function of there being more total attacks.”

Sometimes, bystander interventions have been met with tragic consequences. In 2019, Riley Howell, a student at University of North Carolina at Charlotte, was shot while trying to stop a gunman, though he managed to charge the assailant and pin him down. Howell, a 21-year-old former high school soccer goalie, died in the attack.

Advocates for stricter gun laws said that outsize attention on bystander interventions in mass shootings could distract from the deeper issue of the country’s unrelenting cycle of gun violence.

“Instead of focusing on why these tragedies keep happening, we focus on the heroic acts of the bystander,” said Shannon Watts, the founder of the gun-control organization Moms Demand Action. “We should always call a hero a hero and thank

them for selflessly putting their life on the line. But it makes me so angry that we never stop to think about the fact that we shouldn’t be asking average civilians to be heroes. I don’t want my husband or my children to have to be heroes.”

Watts pushed back against responses to mass shootings that call for more people to be armed with more weapons, noting that America has a gun homicide rate that is 26 times that of its peer nations.

“There are 400 million guns in this country,” she said. “If guns made us safer, we’d be the safest nation in the world.”

During unfolding attacks, colleges and police departments now sometimes post on social media urging people to “Run, Hide, Fight,” and the phrase has become a staple of active shooter training sessions offered at schools, businesses and religious venues. The phrase, which the federal government adopted from the city of Houston, has caught on.

Katherine Schweit, a former FBI official who helped develop the federal guidelines, said training with that philosophy allowed people to think through how they might want to respond long before they encountered a gunman.

“No one should ever be told you must fight — you can’t ask that of anybody,” Schweit said. “But you can talk to them about how people have survived, and not in small numbers. A lot of people have survived when individuals have taken it upon themselves to intervene.”

Jeffrey Kranz, the assistant police chief at Marquette University in Milwaukee, said “Run, Hide, Fight” training was now required for incoming freshmen. But most of them, he said, had already received similar advice growing up.

“It’s the modern-day fire drill that we went through as kids,” Kranz said.

“I can see how this happens. ... Every situation is different. They are all very serious. So, how many? How serious? How did you get them? Who had access to them? Are you being cooperative? And the same set of questions has to be answered with respect to (former Vice President Mike) Pence and with President (Joe) Biden and President (Donald) Trump.”

— Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va.

File revelations expose a not-so-secret problem

Top US officials mishandle classified docs more often than you would think

By Zeke Miller, Farnoush Amiri and Colleen Long
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — At least three presidents. A vice president, a secretary of state, an attorney general. The mishandling of classified documents is not a problem unique to President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump.

The matter of classified records and who, exactly, has hung onto them got more complicated last week as news surfaced that former Vice President Mike Pence also had such records in his possession after he left office. Like Biden, Pence willingly turned them over to authorities after they were discovered during a search he requested, according to his lawyer and aides.

The revelations have thrust the issue of proper handling of documents — an otherwise low-key Washington process — into the middle of political discourse and laid bare an uncomfortable truth: Policies meant to control the handling of the nation's secrets are haphazardly enforced among top officials and rely almost wholly on good faith.

It's been a problem off and on for decades, from presidents to Cabinet members and staff across multiple administrations stretching as far back as Jimmy Carter. The issue has taken on greater significance since Trump willfully retained classified material at his Florida estate, prompting the unprecedented FBI seizure of thousands of pages of records last year.

Ongoing issue

It turns out former officials from all levels of government discover they are in possession of classified material and turn them over to the authorities at least several times a year, according to a person familiar with the matter who spoke on condition of anonymity due to the sensitive nature of classified documents.

Current and former officials involved in the handling of classified information say that while there are clear policies for how such information should be reviewed and stored, those policies are sometimes pushed aside at the highest levels. Teams of national security officials, secretaries and military aides who share responsibility for keeping top-level executives informed — and the executives themselves — may bend the rules for convenience, expediency or sometimes due to carelessness.

It's a contrast to the more rigid way the procedures are followed across the wider intelligence community, where mishandling information could be grounds for termination, a security clearance revocation or even prosecution.

“Executives go back and forth to their house with documents and read them. They read them at night, they bring them back,” said Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va. He contrasted that pattern for top officials to senators, who are required to retain classified materials in secure rooms at the Capitol.

“I can see how this happens,” he added. “But again, every situation is different. They are all very serious. So, how many? How serious? How did you get them? Who had access to them? Are you being cooperative? And the same set of questions has to be answered with respect to Pence and with President Biden and President Trump.”

As for the judiciary, a separate federal law, the Classified Information Procedures Act, governs the handling of material that comes before judges in criminal prosecutions and civil lawsuits. Another law deals with foreign intelligence investigations that come before a special court that operates in secrecy. Both laws are intended to guard against the disclosure of classified information.

While Trump intended to keep the documents — he has argued, in apparent disregard of the Pres-



Former President Jimmy Carter found classified files at least once at his home in Plains, Georgia. Above, Carter with wife Rosalynn. **WAYNE PERKINS/AP1981**



Files were found at President Biden's Delaware home. **CAROLYN KASTER/AP**



Files were found last week at former Vice President Mike Pence's home in Indiana. **MEG KINNARD/AP 2022**

idential Records Act, that they were his personal property — he was hardly the first president to mishandle classified information.

Records act

Carter found classified materials at his home in Plains, Georgia, on at least one occasion and returned them to the National Archives, according to the same person who spoke of regular occurrences of mishandled documents. The person did not provide details on the timing of the discovery.

An aide to the Carter Center provided no details when asked about that account of Carter discovering documents at his home after leaving office in 1981. It's notable that Carter signed the Presidential Records Act in 1978, but it did not apply to records of his administration, taking effect years later when President Ronald Reagan was inaugurated.

Before Reagan, presidential records were generally considered the private property of the president individually. Nonetheless, Carter invited federal archivists to assist his White House in organizing his records in preparation for their eventual repository at his presidential library in Georgia.

The National Archives declined to comment when asked to provide a list of times that classified documents were turned over to the agency by former officials.

Meanwhile, other former senior U.S. officials have insisted they have always appropriately handled classified materials.

A spokesman for former Vice President Dick Cheney said he didn't leave office with classified materials and none have been discovered at any point since. Freddy Ford, a spokesman for former President George W. Bush, said “all presidential records — classified and unclassified — were turned over to NARA upon leaving the White House,” referring to the National Archives and Records Administration.

A spokesperson for former President Barack Obama didn't comment but pointed to a 2022 statement from the National Archives that the agency took control of all of Obama's records after he left office and was “not aware of any missing boxes of Presidential records from the Obama administration.”

Former President Bill Clinton's office said, “All of President Clinton's classified materials were properly turned over to NARA in

accordance with the Presidential Records Act.”

Still, the National Archives on Thursday asked former presidents and vice presidents to recheck their personal records for any classified documents.

The closing days of any presidency are chaotic, as aides sort through years of their bosses' accumulated materials to determine what must be turned over to the archives and what may be retained. Different teams of individuals are responsible for clearing different offices and maintaining consistent standards can prove challenging, officials said.

In Pence's case, the material found in the boxes came mostly from his official residence at the Naval Observatory, where packing was handled by military aides rather than staff lawyers. Other material came from a West Wing office drawer, according to a Pence aide who spoke on condition of anonymity. The boxes were taped shut and were not believed to have been opened since they were packed, the person said.

Honor system

There have also been accusations of mishandled documents while officials were still on the job.

Former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales took home sensitive documents that dealt with the National Security Agency's terrorist surveillance program and the terrorist detainee interrogation program in the late 2000s. Hillary Clinton was investigated

for mishandling classified information via a private email server she used as secretary of state.

But rarely are officials punished for these mistakes. That's in large part because, while federal law does not allow anyone to store classified documents in an unauthorized location, it's only a prosecutable crime when someone is found to have “knowingly” removed the documents from a proper place.

Mishandled documents are often returned with little fanfare or national news coverage. And there is no one reason for why records are mishandled, as the process of presidential records management plays out amid the chaos at the end of a presidential term and is based mostly a good-faith agreement between the archives and the outgoing administration.

“The National Archives has historically worked under an honor system with any administration,” said Tim Naftali, the first director of the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum. “They work for the president and the vice president and they have partnerships with all these former presidents and vice presidents.”

The White House counsel's office declined to comment on whether Biden would order a review of how classified documents are handled across the government. Biden, who is under investigation, is not likely to instigate a review or order any changes in procedure because it could be seen as a political move meant to better his own circumstances.



Files were also seized at Trump's estate in Florida. **STEVE HELBER/AP 2022**

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Your guide to managing money, work and the business of life

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Jill Schlesinger
Jill on Money

The death of diversification?

As we settle into 2023, economists and analysts are still trying to answer last year's two-part question: Is the economy still too strong — and is inflation too high, which means that the Fed will have to keep interest rates higher for longer? The answer may help determine whether or not the economy slows substantially, prompting the U.S. to enter a recession.

The December jobs report showed how tricky the situation is for the central bank: The economy added 223,000 jobs, which indicates underlying strength in the labor market. But the Fed was likely heartened by the notable slowdown in wage growth to a 4.6% annual pace, the lowest since August 2021.

Against the Fed's uncertainty is a nagging thought: What if this time really is different for investors?

As a reminder, 2022 was a terrible year for stocks and bonds. The S&P 500 fell 19.4% and the tech-heavy NASDAQ tumbled by 33.1%, led lower by big tech names. Unfortunately, there was no hiding in the bond market, which suffered its worst year in decades, with the S&P aggregate bond index down 12%.

The 2022 results have prompted many in my podcast audience to ask whether diversification is dead or if last year proves that asset allocation does not work. Although I could not have anticipated the magnitude of the 2022 downturn, when I was writing my soon-to-be released book "The Great Money Reset," I posed the following question: Conventional wisdom holds that passive or index investing is best. Is that still true in volatile times?

Here's the answer, from "The Great Money Reset":

"Darn straight it is. As I argued in my previous book, indexing (where you buy a fund that mirrors a specific asset index, such as the S&P 500 stock index or a bond or commodity index) really works, no matter what's happening in the wider world.

"You might shake your head at this, objecting that you're better off putting your money in the latest hot stock du jour. In 2021, that might have been Tesla, which during the decade after its founding saw its stock price rise more than 4,000%. How can the S&P 500 or some other boring old index possibly compete with that?"

(Side note: When I chose Tesla as the poster child for upside performance in the book, I could not imagine that 2022 would usher in a 65% loss for the innovative car company.)

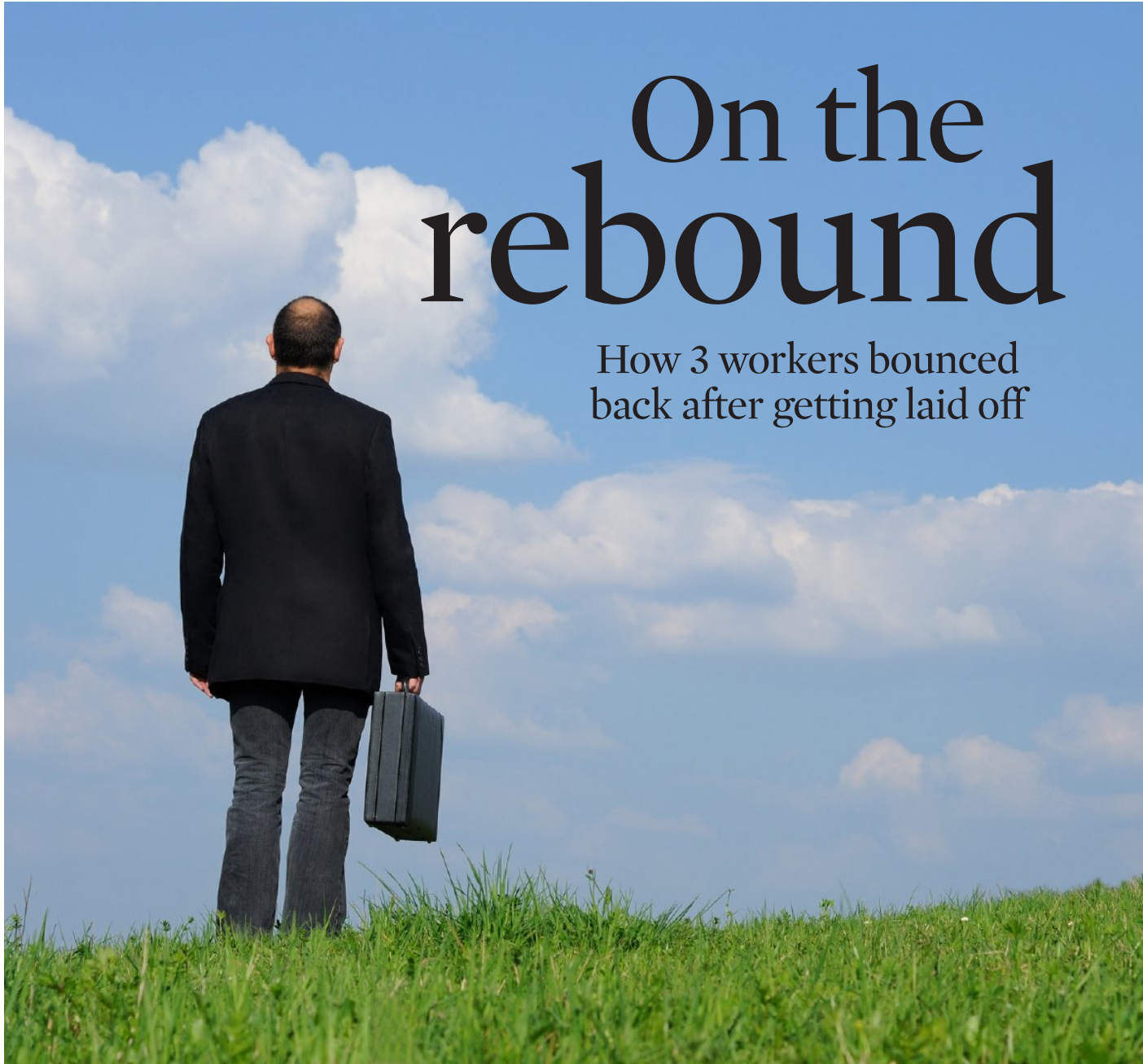
"I'll tell you how. None of us knows in advance how a given company will perform. To lower their risk, most active investors (people who buy and sell stocks on an ongoing basis hoping to outdo various indices) avoid investing in one company and instead buy a basket of stocks.

"When you do that, it becomes very difficult to outperform market indices over long time periods ... The key to sound investing isn't to be a genius, staying one step ahead of markets. It's to not blow it by avoiding unforced errors. Don't follow those who are looking for the next rocket-ship stock. Slow, steady and passive wins the day."

A 2023 addendum: Last year was a grim reminder that diversified portfolios will come with good and bad years. But focusing on one horrible year can divert your attention from achieving long-term goals. Try to drown out the noise and focus on what you can control, like how much you spend and how much you save.

The excerpts are from the forthcoming "The Great Money Reset" by Jill Schlesinger. Copyright (c) 2023 by the author and reprinted by permission of St. Martin's Publishing Group.

Jill Schlesinger, CFP, is a CBS News business analyst. A former options trader and CIO of an investment advisory firm, she welcomes comments and questions at askjill@jillonmoney.com. Check her website at www.jillonmoney.com.



GRADTS/DREAMSTIME

By Anastasia Chernikova | Fast Company

The trend of massive tech layoffs has continued from 2022 into 2023. In 2022, at least 140,000 tech workers lost their jobs, far outpacing 2020 and 2021. For instance, Meta cut around 11,000 workers, about 13% of its workforce, and Snap laid off 1,200 workers, about 20% of its workforce.

In the wake of such turbulence and uncertainty, workers are finding opportunities to reinvent themselves and establish new opportunities. For many, these experiences have also opened up a much-needed way to take a break for self-care and put their mental health in order.

I spoke with three workers about how they have rebounded after getting laid off, and here's what they had to say.

Rebounding by starting a business

Jacob Richard was laid off from the role of brand marketing manager at Nikon in 2022 with no warning after working for the organization for six years. "I thought that, after putting in so much hard work, my job would be safe. I never expected to be laid off," he admits. "In my role, I managed various projects from media planning and buying to creative strategy, digital content creation and consumer research."

One day, Richard received an email from his manager informing him that they had to make cuts to their team due to budget restrictions, and that he would no longer be able to continue in his role. They gave him no other reasons for this decision, so it left him with many unanswered questions.

"At first, I felt betrayed and hurt by how my layoff was announced via email instead of face-to-face," Richard says. "But after some time, I realized they had probably done it this way because they didn't want to have an emotional conversation with me or make things more difficult than they already were."

Richard knew he had to immediately jump back in and take control of his career. Upon some reflection, he realized that he wanted to "be a leader in some capacity."

"Whether it was helping others with their work or taking on more responsibility, I wanted to demonstrate that I could handle larger roles and prove my worth as an asset to the team," he says.

Richard rebounded to the loss of his job by creating his own organization. He says his network and his experience were vital components in his ability to do so.

"From my earliest days as a budding photographer to my current experience as an industry expert, I have seen the world through the lens of a camera," he says. "My journey has inspired me to create Camera Prism, an online platform dedicated to educating both budding and experienced photographers alike."

For those who are now looking for a job (or who are interested in starting a new business), he recommends that they stay on top of industry trends and keep their skills sharp.

Taking time off

Despite working as a software engineer for ServiceNow, a top tech company, Irene Graham expected layoffs due to the recession. But when it happened, it still had a psychological impact, so Graham says she took time away to recover, be with her family, and get her mind in the right place before she made her next move.

"I'd always wanted to try my hand at something on my own. I realized early in my career that I am not the type of person who can work a 9-to-5 job indefinitely," she says. "I'd been planning to start my own business alongside my job for a long time."

Graham took the plunge and started Spylix, a remote parental-monitoring platform. However, starting a business had its own set of challenges.

"This transition was difficult

because I had to manage everything from investments to employees, and there were times when I felt like giving up," Graham says. "I reminded myself why I started this venture in the first place, and I told myself that even if things are difficult right now, they will be okay later as long as I keep putting in the effort."

Reevaluating skills

Alexander Oleinikov's layoff came in July amid a massive spike in tech company cuts. He had been an engineering manager with People.ai for 2 ½ years and was part of the staff reduction efforts.

While Oleinikov felt that this wasn't the best time to be a free agent in the tech market, he was given a severance package that allowed him to take time off and enjoy himself before returning to work. For the first two months, he didn't look for work.

"I didn't want to get into a situation that would lead to another series of layoffs, so I wanted to think it through," he says. "Every layoff brings some self-reflection: Was it because of me? How can I avoid similar situations in the future? I knew I had to work on my self-esteem and mental health, because it's pretty hard to get rejections when you haven't looked for a job for a while and know you have to do it full time now."

Oleinikov also realized how crucial networking and soft skills are.

"Some companies I applied to only responded after I found friends or former colleagues who could introduce me," he says. "I also realized that soft skills win over hard skills during interviews. Interviewers are still people, and it's often more important to show empathy and find the right vibe with that person than showcase your technical skills."

Overall, he is certain that the tech job market still has many opportunities, but it has changed. Oleinikov says tech professionals need to adapt to the new reality, which may mean learning new skills or altering their job roles.

Anastasia Chernikova is editor-in-chief of The Vivid Minds, a media initiative dedicated to stories about leaders who overcome challenges and moved forward.



I asked what kind of family Amina wanted. She said, 'A family like yours.' That's when I knew I had to adopt her.

Denise, adopted 17-year-old Amina



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Conservative investments that may stand out in 2023



Elliot Raphaelson
The Savings Game

Many readers have said they are concerned about future returns on both stock and bond investments. Returns for both markets overall were poor in 2022, and many analysts are not enthusiastic about returns in 2023.

What are the alternatives for conservative investments in 2023?

Because the Federal Reserve is likely to continue raising interest rates in 2023, albeit at a more moderate pace than it did in 2022, several options look more attractive. Here are a few:

Money-market investments: Not long ago, returns on these instruments were well below 1%. That situation has changed significantly, and brokerage firms and mutual funds are now offering money-market investments at much higher rates.

For example, I recently invested in federal money-market funds at Vanguard that are returning over 4% on a 30-day basis. Other financial organizations are offering similar rates.

There is no guarantee that the returns will stay at the current level, but as long as inflation persists, and the Fed continues to increase interest rates, it is likely that returns will stay at current levels. When you buy money-market funds, you have the flexibility to withdraw funds whenever you wish. And if you invest with a major financial institution, there is minimal risk to your principal. There is no such guarantee with investment in bond funds, even those with short maturities. Most of these funds showed losses to capital in 2022.

Treasury bills/notes: T-bill returns have also increased significantly in 2022. As of January 2023, you can obtain a coupon equivalent return of 4.88% for 6-month bills and 4.75% for one-year bills. Return for two-year treasury notes is 4.34%. The interest is not taxable at state and local levels. Return of your principal is guaranteed.



DREAMSTIME

Certificates of deposit: Just as rates have increased for money-market instruments and T-bills, returns on CDs have also increased significantly. In January 2023, for example, one-year CDs had returns as high as 4.5%; for two years, rates are as high as 4.8%.

Multi-year guaranteed annuities (MYGAs): If you are willing to invest for more than three years, you can obtain higher returns from MYGAs than from CDs, with the same maturities. For example, currently, for five-year maturities, you can receive a return that exceeds 5%. Although you can purchase MYGAs for longer periods, in a rising interest rate environment, you may want to restrict your time frame to no longer than five years, even though you can obtain a slightly higher interest rate for longer maturities.

You can invest in MYGAs in individual retirement accounts as well as in non-IRA accounts. The advantage of non-IRA

investments is tax deferral compounding of interest. If you buy a CD in a non-IRA account, taxes have to be paid yearly on the interest earned.

There are surrender charges if you decide to withdraw the funds prior to the end of the specified contract period. However, even during the surrender charge time period, most MYGAs allow you to take some money out without penalty. Terms vary, and it is important for you to understand them.

MYGAs are insured by state guaranty funds, not by the FDIC. Make sure your MYGA is issued by a quality carrier.

If you are interested in MYGAs, I recommend you consult with Stan Haithcock (stantheannuityman.com), an annuity expert who can explain the pros and cons of investing in MYGAs. I have worked with Haithcock for many years. He only recommends MYGAs consistent with investor objectives.

Elliot Raphaelson welcomes your questions and comments at raphelliot@gmail.com.

RETIREMENT

Prepare for longevity

By Sandra Block
Kiplinger's Personal Finance

Follow a local newspaper long enough, and you'll probably come upon a story about a 100-year-old resident who still bowls, goes square dancing twice a week and occasionally enjoys a shot of tequila. About 97,000 Americans are centenarians — 100 or older — and a handful of those are supercentenarians — individuals who have celebrated their 110th birthday.

Maybe you're convinced that you won't live that long after seeing reports that average U.S. life expectancy has declined to about 76, the lowest since 1996.

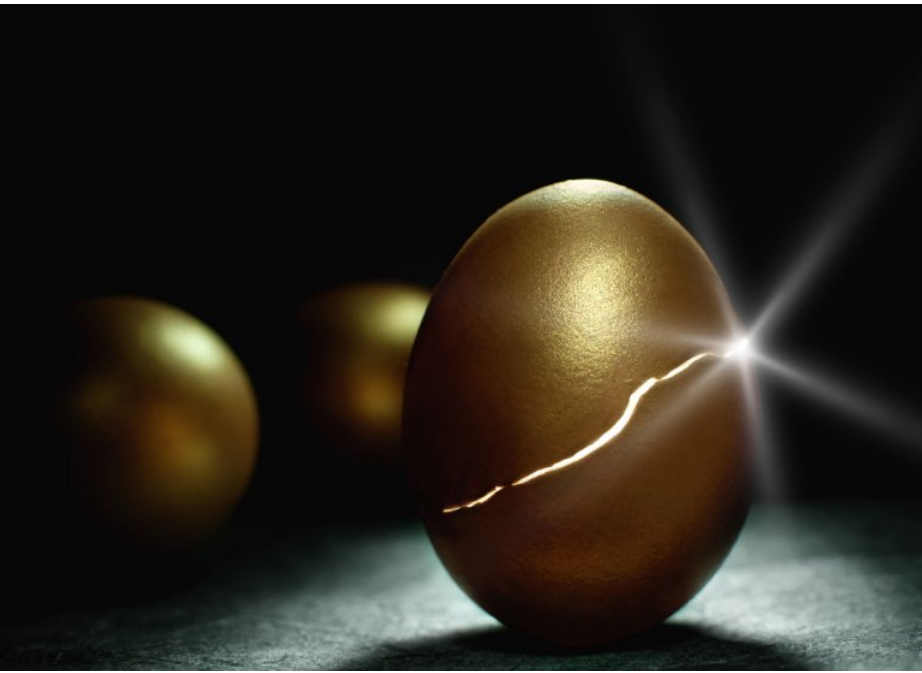
But those numbers were skewed by the COVID-19 epidemic and don't reflect the likelihood that you'll live much longer than that, says Barbara Selig, senior wealth management adviser at TIAA.

For a 65-year-old couple, there's a 50% chance that one spouse will live to age 93 and a 25% chance that one will live to 97, according to the Society of Actuaries. And while living into your 90s beats the alternative, it increases the risk that you'll outlive your savings.

"Longevity is the biggest financial risk for retirees," Selig says.

With that in mind, you should start planning for longevity well before you retire — in your 50s or, ideally, even before that.

It should go without saying that saving early and often is the most important component of longevity planning. In 2023, you can contribute up to \$22,500 to your 401(k), 403(b) or 457 plan, plus \$7,500 in catch-up contributions if you're 50 or



CHARLIEAJA/DREAMSTIME

older, for a total of \$30,000. The maximum contribution to a traditional or Roth IRA in 2023 is \$6,500. Savers age 50 and older can contribute an extra \$1,000 to an IRA, for a total of \$7,500.

But where you save is almost as important as the amount you sock away. If you invest all of your savings in tax-deferred 401(k)s and traditional IRAs, you could find yourself with a massive "tax bomb" in retirement that could dramatically reduce the amount you will have for your own expenses, says David McClellan, a partner with Forum Financial Management in Austin, Texas.

That's because every dollar you save in a tax-deferred account will be taxed at your ordinary income tax rate when you take out the money.

And even if you don't need the money, you'll eventually need to take required minimum distributions — the start date

that is gradually rising to age 75 in 2033 — that can set off the tax bomb, McClellan says.

The most effective way to reduce your tax bill in retirement is to invest a significant percentage of your retirement savings in after-tax accounts.

While more than 75% of large employers offer Roth 401(k) plans, only about 14% of employees invest in them, according to Fidelity Investments, one of the largest plan providers. You'll lose the tax deduction in the year you make a contribution, but withdrawals will be tax-free as long as you're 59 ½ and have owned the Roth for at least five years.

Although you can't contribute to a Roth IRA if your income exceeds annual thresholds — \$153,000 for singles and \$228,000 for married couples in 2023 — there are no income limits on contributions to a Roth 401(k) plan.



Terry Savage
The Savage Truth

Biden proposes new student loan relief plan

A new proposal by the Biden administration would dramatically cut monthly student loan payments in half, with monthly payments as low as zero for many borrowers, while completely wiping out the remaining balance for some borrowers after 10 years of payments.

Unlike the administration's previous plan granting selective student debt forgiveness, this is merely a generous reworking of the Revised Pay As You Earn (REPAYE) plan, a type of income-driven repayment plan for federal student loans. Thus, it is less likely to make its way to the Supreme Court, which will hold hearings at the end of February on the legality of Biden's original \$10,000 forgiveness plan.

Here are some of the specifics:

Current programs base payments on 10% or 15% of the borrower's discretionary after-tax income. The new program would lower that calculation to 5% of the borrower's discretionary income. In effect, that would at least cut payments in half for most borrowers.

Currently, borrowers who earn less than 150% of the federal poverty level (around \$21,900) qualify for the REPAYE plan. Under the new proposal, borrowers wouldn't need to make payments until income earned hit 225% of the federal poverty guideline, or about \$32,800.

Anyone earning less than that \$32,800 level would have a zero monthly payment. But, according to student loan expert Mark Kantrowitz, even those with much higher incomes will save under the new formula. He explains that someone earning more than \$90,000 and currently paying \$568 per month would see her monthly payment drop to \$238. And a borrower earning \$40,000 could see a monthly payment drop from the current \$151 per month to as low as \$30 per month.

As in the current programs, if you successfully make 20 years of these new lower payments, the balance will be forgiven. And for those who have loans initially totaling less than \$12,000, and who make regular payments under this plan, the loan will be forgiven after 10 years of payments. For every \$1,000 of initial additional borrowings, the time until forgiveness is extended by one year.

As long as the payments are made on time, no unpaid interest will be added to the balance, eliminating the "snowball effect" of interest-on-interest adding to outstanding balances.

Previously, family income was used to calculate the required payments in these income-driven plans. Now, only the income from the actual borrower will be counted — a relief to many young married couples.

As it is written, this new program does not apply to PLUS loans that parents of students take out.

It hasn't been determined whether federal income taxes apply on the amount forgiven, which is the current case until 2025. And states can make their own tax determinations.

What would all of this cost the government? Estimates range as high as \$200 billion over 10 years. But that pales in comparison to the \$1.5 trillion in outstanding student loans — many of them still carrying their original interest rate of 7% or higher, with interest compounding. Many borrowers are stuck not only with the high interest rates but also with the compounding of debt — which means they may have paid off their original borrowings but still owe twice as much in unpaid interest!

Rae Kaplan, a Chicago attorney who specializes in guiding borrowers to choose the best repayment plans, says if the proposal goes into effect, many borrowers will still need guidance in consolidating their loans to take best advantage of this deal. The details are yet to be released.

This new proposal is not scheduled to go into effect until at earliest July 2024 — if it manages to make its way through legal and political challenges. In the meantime, the current student loan forbearance, which requires no payments, will stay in effect until June 1, 2023 — or two months after the expected Supreme Court ruling on the initial forgiveness program.

The government has been able to refinance its debt to lower costs. Now it's time to adjust the burden of student loans. And that's The Savage Truth.

SOURCE: Joel Comm, Inc.

3 ways entrepreneurs can gain a competitive advantage

When it comes to building a successful business, being able to stand out from the crowd is essential. Entrepreneurs must be able to communicate their vision, build a strong team, and navigate an ever-changing landscape better than their competition. Here are three ways to gain an edge:

 **Consider hiring salespeople**

Usually, entrepreneurs are worried about the costs associated with hiring a sales team. However, ensuring that your business can count on a world-class sales team is easier than ever before. Take entrepreneur Cole Gordon's business as an example. By recruiting and training salespeople to help underperforming businesses, he was able to grow Closers.io to a \$30-million-a-year business in 26 months. Its success has made it easier for other companies to scale their operations with quality salespeople generating conversions.

 **Don't worry too much about the market**

Another common mistake that entrepreneurs make is worrying too much about the market at the time of launching their business. Sure, you want to make sure that there is a demand for your product or service, but what many fail to realize is that market conditions don't necessarily affect this demand. If your idea is good and it solves a real problem, it will succeed independently of the market. The time you would lose by waiting could be the tipping point between your business's success and its failure.

 **Focus on adding value to your idea**

Not only is today's business world a ruthless place where anyone can copy your concept, but they can also bring more value to it. A way to ensure this doesn't happen is to always look for new ways to bring value. Take Joe Ochal as an example. After having completed his masters degree in microbiology, Ochal opened a full-service chimney and fireplace company aptly named Chimney Scientists. Instead of limiting the company to providing standard services, he applied his expertise to develop new techniques. Applying a cross-disciplinary approach expanded his company's offerings, which yielded a competitive advantage.

SUCCESS



AUDIOUNDEWERBUNG/DREAMSTIME

Study: Teens who use Instagram are happier than people think

By Chris Stokel-Walker
Fast Company

Anxiety stemming from the use of social media has become a common trope as we spend more and more of our lives online, with big tech platforms pinpointed as to blame.

And yet a new study out of the Netherlands suggests that the situation may be more nuanced than we first thought, at least when it comes to Instagram.

Research by academics at the University of Amsterdam’s School of Communication Research looks at more than 210,000 Instagram direct messages belonging to around 100 adolescents in the eighth and ninth grade. The contents of their DMs were analyzed to discern whether the participants expressed positive or negative sentiment; study subjects were also asked to complete a dozen

biweekly surveys asking how happy they felt in the previous seven days.

The result: Teens sent DMs containing expressions of happiness four times more frequently than sad ones, while there was no significant relationship between the emotions expressed in a user’s DMs and how they felt IRL.

“All the headlines you see in newspapers, and the stuff we’ve done previously, looks a lot at time spent on social media and not at the content you consume,” says Tim Verbeij, one of the co-authors of the paper. Verbeij and his colleagues’ paper does something different, looking at the actual content that users encounter while on social media, rather than simply investigating the link between time spent on a platform and their well-being and happiness.

Verbeij says the findings are notable. “Our interpretation of the findings is that

Instagram can be beneficial for normal emotional development,” he says.

In part, that could be down to the timeframe in which the experiment was conducted: Starting in November 2019, the surveys spanned the pandemic, meaning that for some users caught in strict government-enforced lockdowns, social media was a way to stay connected to friends when they couldn’t meet in person.

“In this case, Instagram might be very beneficial for them to express their happiness or when they’re sad, with their friends,” he says.

The finding that social media can be positive contradicts several studies, including a 2021 analysis by Harvard University researchers that the use of certain social media platforms, like Snapchat, Facebook and TikTok, preceded the worsening of depressive symptoms among more than 5,000 users.

Get better at practicing self-compassion

By Stephanie Vozza
Fast Company

When you’re a high achiever or a perfectionist, you’re often harder on yourself than you are on others. Discipline can be a good way for getting things done and for achieving goals, but it’s also possible that you’ll take it too far.

Instead, when you’re in a challenging situation, it’s important to practice self-compassion, says Katherine Morgan Schaffer, author of “The Perfectionist’s Guide to Losing Control: A Path to Peace and Power.”

“Self-compassion is not telling yourself, ‘It’s okay, it’s alright,’ when things are not okay or alright,” she says. “I call that generic reassurance and emotional petting. Emotional petting doesn’t feel good because we know it’s not the truth.”

Instead, self-compassion is being honest, which brings true relief, Morgan Schaffer says. To practice it, you can use these three tenets that are based on the research of Kristin Neff, PhD, associate professor of educational psychology at the University of Texas at Austin and a pioneer in the field of self-compassion.

Self-kindness

While this sounds like you’re just being nice to yourself, Morgan Schaffer says it’s more powerful than that. “It’s about recognizing that you are in pain,” she says. “That’s really a game-changing acknowledgement.”

Often, people turn to self-compassion

when they need to get something done, Morgan Schaffer says. “You’re asking yourself, ‘How can I get unstuck and get out of this?’” she says. “It’s future-oriented. Self-kindness, however, is about being able to stay in the moment and having empathy for that.”

Empathy is much deeper than kindness, Morgan Schaffer adds. “It’s about turning towards yourself instead of away from yourself, and seeing yourself as a whole human being and not just a one-dimensional person who happens to be messing up right now in this moment,” she says.

Common humanity

Common humanity is realizing that you’re a human being who is existing amongst billions of other human beings. It’s understanding that everybody suffers in this life and there’s no escaping it.

“We all have a hard time,” Morgan Schaffer says. “We all have family drama. Nobody lives and dies without a couple of really scary doctor’s appointments, either for ourselves or the people that we love.”

The trouble comes when you internalize these moments and consider them to be a reflection of yourself, saying, “I’m suffering so something must be wrong with me.”

“Realizing that you are part of a common humanity can get you out of feeling isolated and alone,” Morgan Schaffer says. “Before you, billions of other human beings existed. There is no way you’re having an emotion or an experience that hasn’t been experienced before. This can

be particularly helpful if you’re dealing with an issue where there is social taboo, such as having suicidal thoughts.”

Mindfulness

The final step to building self-compassion is incorporating mindfulness.

Morgan Schaffer says it’s tilting your head a bit to the side and realizing that you’re feeling what you’re feeling, such as defeated, jealous or confused — but that’s not all that you feel.

“Mindfulness is not about asking yourself, ‘How do I get rid of this feeling?’” she explains. “It’s asking, ‘What else do I feel?’ For example, do I also feel grateful for the fact that I am able-bodied? Am I also curious? What is some other thing that has nothing to do with your stress point, such as being playful or adventurous?”

When our stress response is activated, we get tunnel vision and forget that we’re multidimensional beings with lots of feelings and thoughts.

“It’s like we’re stuck on one channel, which tends to be the everything-that’s-wrong-with-me channel,” Morgan Schaffer says. “Mindfulness is not about meditative stuff so much; it’s being able to see your emotional landscape and the 360-degree angles.”

Self-compassion can be as easy as heading to bed after an exhausting day or as difficult as forcing yourself to get out of bed after an exhausting night, she says.

“At all times, self-compassion will be worth whatever difficulty or ease you encounter.”



Steve Rosen
Kids & Money

Repayment options on private student loans

While the Biden administration continues to focus on providing relief to federal student loan borrowers in financial distress, it’s another story for individuals encountering problems repaying loans from private lenders.

They have options, though not always great ones.

Private student loans are non-federal education loans made by banks and other financial institutions, such as credit unions and online lenders. Lenders set the terms and eligibility for private student loans. The interest rate — generally higher than for federal loans — and fees are usually based on the credit score of the borrower or any co-signer.

Most student loans are owned by the federal government. Still, private student loan debt amounts to about \$131 billion, or about 8% of the total outstanding student loan debt.

Many of those 17 million borrowers are experiencing their own financial stress from struggling to make payments during the pandemic. Now with rising inflation, many with private student loans have exhausted their savings and are desperate for some sort of relief.

Generally, the only time borrowers with private student loans are entitled to any relief at all is if they are permanently disabled or dead.

The good news is that most lenders offer a few options for financial relief for borrowers of private student loans who are encountering financial difficulties.

This may sound obvious, but start by contacting your lender and ask about options for financial assistance. At the very least, check the lender’s website.

Many lenders offer short-term forbearances, typically for two to three months, to help borrowers get back on their feet. Interest continues to build during this period and will be added to the loan balance. Some lenders offer a partial forbearance, which requires interest-only payments and keeps the loan balance from growing.

In addition, some lenders will temporarily reduce the interest rate on the loan.

Take advantage of autopay discounts, where monthly payments are automatically transferred from the borrower’s bank account to the lender. As an incentive, lenders will reduce the interest rate on the loan.

Kevin Ladd, a financial aid expert at Scholarships.com, noted that private student loan borrowers still have the options of loan consolidation and refinancing, although rates are higher on fixed-rate or variable-rate loans.

For borrowers with a combination of private and federal loans, Ladd suggests this strategy: Take advantage of the federal loan repayment pause and pay off the private loan first because it carries a higher interest rate.

Check on whether your state has established payment assistance programs for borrowers in certain professions. Illinois, for example, has separate programs for veterans, teachers, nurses and other public employees.

I’ve always said private student loans should be an option of last resort because of their repayment drawbacks. But if you think you’ll be in the market later this year for a private loan, do your research, shop around to get the best terms and, by all means, have a clear understanding of your options if you run into repayment troubles.

Questions, comments, column ideas? Send an email to sbrosen1030@gmail.com.



DREAMSTIME

Plan a wedding you can afford

By Emma Patch
Kiplinger’s Personal Finance

Pent-up demand from the pandemic and inflation have driven up the cost of the average wedding to more than \$27,000, according to market research firm The Wedding Report.

If you’re about to walk down the aisle in the upcoming year or so, here are strategies to control the cost of what can be the most expensive day of your life.

How to trim costs

During the pandemic, couples were forced to reduce guest counts, and that trend has held even as the threat from COVID-19 has subsided.

“The pandemic really forced a lot of people to take stock of what actually mattered about their wedding, and determine who was most important in their lives to be there to celebrate with them,” says Jessica Bishop, author of “The Budget-Savvy Wedding Planner & Organizer.” And slashing the guest list is the No. 1 way to cut the costs of a wedding. “For every guest you invite, that’s an invitation, a chair, a meal, a place setting. Or for every eight to 10 guests, it’s another table with another linen, another centerpiece,” Bishop says.

Couples should also consider how wedding expenses will be divided. “Traditionally, the bride pays for most of the wedding, and the groom pays for a few other things,” says Lizzie Post, co-author

of “Emily Post’s Etiquette, The Centennial Edition.”

“But for well over 20 years, that tradition has been gone.” The important thing for any couple to do is to have candid and considerate conversations with anyone who would like to contribute, she says.

Financing

Financial stress is one of the leading causes of disagreements in relationships. That’s why it’s important for couples to plan a wedding that’s within their means.

If you have accumulated rewards on a credit card, you may be able to use them to help pay for wedding expenses. If you sign up for a new card, charging those expenses could qualify you for bonus travel rewards you can use to help finance your honeymoon.

But this strategy only works if you can

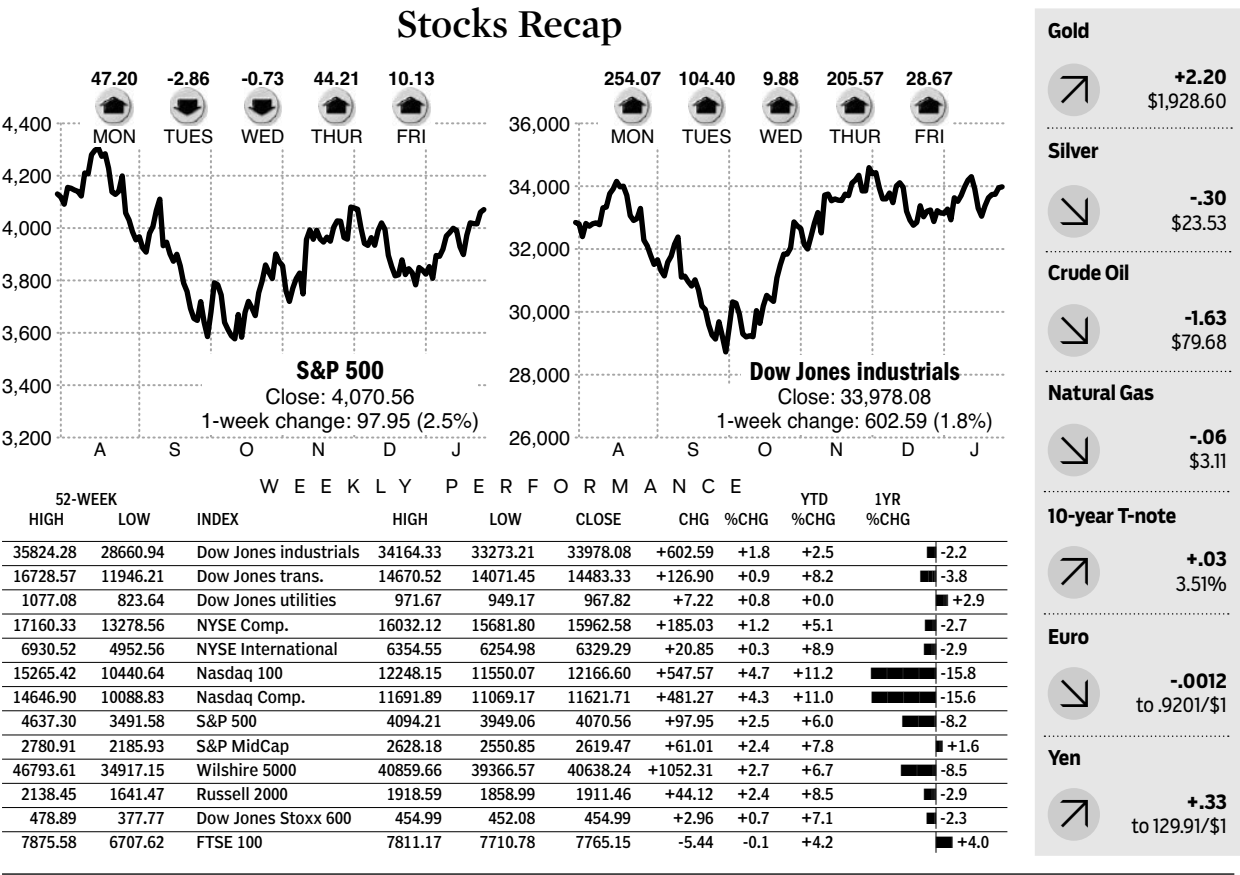
pay off your balance in full every month. Likewise, while a personal loan may seem like an easy short-term solution, it could leave you in debt at the start of your marriage.

One item that has increased significantly of late is the cost of fresh flowers, thanks in part to shortages and shipping disruptions. For this reason, many couples are opting for high-quality silk florals. For an even lower cost, some companies, such as Something Borrowed Blooms, will allow you to rent florals.

Setting the date

Winter is often an unpopular time for weddings, but “if that’s your vibe and you want a snowy, winter wonderland wedding, you’re probably going to get a lower price on rentals and your venue if it’s not their peak season,” Bishop says.

INVESTING



Most active

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE
Ford Motor	13.27	+87
AT&T Inc	19.95	+72
Carnival Corp	11.02	+55
Snap Inc A	10.91	+92
Shopify Inc	50.08	+96.00
Palantir Technol	7.55	+53
Bank of America	35.45	+1.60
Transocean Ltd	6.63	+62
Avaya Holdings Corp	.32	+10
Pfizer Inc	43.79	+21
Verizon Comm	40.64	+64
Stwnstn Energy	5.56	-23
Nu Holdings Ltd	4.37	+56

NASDAQ STOCK MARKET

STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE
Exela Technologies	.07	-.01
Mullen Automotive	.33	+03
Tesla Inc	177.90	+44.48
COMsSovereign Hldg	.08	+02
Summit Wireless Tech	9.20	-.40
Faraday Fut Intllgnt	.88	+26
BuzzFeed Inc	3.87	+2.93
Amazon.com Inc	102.24	+4.99
Apple Inc	145.93	+8.06
Lucid Group Inc	12.87	+5.05
Novo Integrated Sci	.12	+01
Adv Micro Dev	75.40	+5.33
Intel Corp	28.16	-1.06

EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS

STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE
Direx S&P500Bear 3x	18.65	-1.42
Direx SOX Bear 3x	23.62	+1.42
Direx Biotech Bull	8.51	+67
Direx SOX Bull 3x	14.98	+2.19
iShs China Large Cap	33.23	+74
iShs Emerg Mkts	42.30	+57
iShs iBoxx HY CpBd	76.16	-.01
Invesco QQQ Trust	296.26	+13.58
ProShs UltraPro QQQ	23.33	+2.94
ProShs Short S&P	15.16	-.36
ProShs UltraPro ShtQQ	38.85	-.94
SPDR S&P500 ETF Tr	405.68	+9.80
SPDR Financial	36.25	+90

Largest Companies

Based on market capitalization

STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE
ASML Holding NV	667.39	+18.54
Abbott Labs	109.95	-2.87
AbbVie Inc	146.28	-3.31
Accenture PLC	277.27	-3.20
Alibaba Group Hldg	118.38	-1.48
Alphabet Inc C	100.71	+1.43
Alphabet Inc A	99.37	+1.35
Amazon.com Inc	102.24	+4.99
Apple Inc	145.93	+8.06
AstraZeneca PLC	65.53	-3.62
BHP Billiton Ltd	69.88	+4.42
Bank of America	35.45	+1.60
Berkshire Hath A	470000.00	+355.01
Berkshire Hath B	309.17	-.70
Broadcom Inc	590.99	+20.21
Chevron Corp	179.45	-1.45
Cisco Syst	48.51	+1.73
CocaCola Co	60.49	+4.1
Costco Wholesale	503.29	+23.18
Danaher Corp	265.98	-8.42
Disney	109.54	+6.06
Eli Lilly	342.10	-3.97
Exxon Mobil Corp	115.61	+2.26
Home Depot	316.69	+1.69
JPMorgan Chase	140.32	+5.24
Johnson & Johnson	168.23	-.51
MasterCard Inc	374.03	-2.25
McDonalds Corp	272.46	+3.88
Merck & Co	105.38	-4.56
Meta Platforms Inc	151.74	+12.37
Microsoft Corp	248.16	+7.94
Novartis AG	89.49	-2.58
Novo Nordisk AS	138.09	-3.01
Nvidia Corporation	203.65	+25.26
Oracle Corp	88.99	+1.74
PepsiCo	169.62	-.26
Pfizer Inc	43.79	-.91
Procter & Gamble	140.57	-2.40
Shell plc ADS	58.51	-.39
T-Mobile US Inc	146.73	+1.61
Taiwan Semiconductor	93.30	+2.27
Tesla Inc	177.90	+4.44
Thermo Fisher Sci	573.63	-20.03
Toyota Mot	147.16	+1.05
UnitedHealth Group	486.05	-.67
Visa Inc	231.44	+7.13
Walmart Strs	143.30	+2.76

How the region's Top 100 companies fared

Ranks based on market capitalization of public companies headquartered in Illinois and north-west Indiana as of Friday, January 27, 2023

Market capitalization in millions of dollars

RANK/COMPANY	CAP	CLOSE	WEEK	1-YR
1 AbbVie Inc	258,693	146.28	▼ -3.31	+14.1
2 McDonalds Corp	199,556	272.46	▲ +3.88	+12.2
3 Abbott Labs	191,705	109.95	▼ -2.87	-5.9
4 Caterpillar Inc	137,668	264.54	▲ +14.83	+24.5
5 Boeing Co	125,395	211.17	▲ +4.41	+9.5
6 Deere Co	124,265	418.18	▲ +7.58	+14.4
7 Mondelez Intl	88,382	64.72	▲ +6.8	-0
8 ITW	70,858	230.67	▲ +4.39	+3
9 CME Group	63,196	175.68	▲ +6.2	-15.8
10 Kraft Heinz Co	48,617	39.69	▼ -1.19	+14.5
11 Arch Dan Mid	45,940	83.63	▼ -1.12	+19.7
12 Motorola Solutions	42,536	254.40	▼ -9.1	+14.5
13 Exelon Corp	41,429	41.69	▼ -.65	+8.1
14 Gallagher AJ	40,862	193.81	▼ -.09	+30.1
15 Allstate Corp	33,901	127.83	▲ +2.18	+9.7
16 Discover Fin Svcs	32,123	117.57	▲ +11.43	-2
17 Walgreen Boots Alli	32,059	37.17	▲ +1.29	-22.8
18 Grainger WW	28,891	571.79	▲ +11.55	+18.9
19 CDW Corp	26,169	193.29	▼ -5.47	+7.6
20 Ulta Salon Cosmetics	25,728	505.67	▲ +14.42	+43.3
21 Equity Residential	23,944	63.36	▲ +2.03	-25.9
22 Baxter Intl	23,189	46.00	▲ +2.12	-43.9
23 Ventas Inc	20,633	51.62	▲ +2.34	+2.4
24 Dover Corp	20,348	144.98	▲ +5.64	-14.4
25 Nthn Trust Cp	20,258	97.20	▲ +3.84	-13.4
26 IDEX Corp	18,005	238.73	▲ +5.53	+11.8
27 ConAgra Brands Inc	17,377	36.46	▼ -1.19	+9.4
28 Zebra Tech	16,371	317.10	▲ +20.07	-34.6
29 CF Industries	16,299	83.08	▼ -3.40	+27.7
30 United Airlines Hldg	15,922	48.73	▼ -.73	+19.4
31 LKQ Corporation	15,394	57.62	▲ +1.66	+8.1
32 TransUnion	13,799	71.61	▲ +3.76	-28.7
33 CBOE Global Markets	12,952	122.10	▼ -.20	+9.1
34 Equity Lifesty Prop	12,841	69.00	▲ +9.8	-5.8
35 Packaging Corp Am	12,807	138.41	▲ +5.93	+7.5
36 CNA Financial	11,689	43.15	▲ +1.22	+3.9
37 Paycity Hldg	11,503	206.62	▲ +6.05	+11.4
38 NISource Inc	11,176	27.52	▲ +3.1	+4.2
39 Morningstar Inc	10,248	241.44	▲ +6.7	-10.3
40 Jones Lang LaSalle	8,605	181.30	▲ +4.63	-24.5
41 US Foods Holding	8,471	37.67	▲ +1.03	+7.9
42 Middleby Corp	8,317	154.36	▲ +7.78	-16.8
43 Fortune Brands Innov	8,087	63.06	▲ +1.07	-18.9
44 Old Republic	7,902	25.97	▲ +2.03	+14.2
45 Aptargroup Inc	7,359	112.73	▼ -.56	-8
46 First Indl Tr	7,029	53.20	▲ +1.35	-9.3
47 Ingredion Inc	6,644	101.36	▼ -.79	+11.9
48 Littelfuse Inc	6,273	253.44	▲ +9.62	-2.9
49 RLI Corp	5,916	130.38	▼ -2.68	+36.5
50 Brunswick Corp	5,778	79.70	▲ +1.72	-8.0
51 CCC Intellig Solut	5,760	9.28	▲ +6.2	-9.9
52 IAA Inc	5,513	41.22	▲ +5.7	-5.3
53 Wintrust Financial	5,499	90.50	▲ +3.27	-5.8
54 Hyatt Hotels Corp	5,398	112.24	▲ +3.14	+23.7
55 Stericycle Inc	4,842	52.53	▼ -.29	-5.9
56 Ryan Specialty Group	4,687	41.72	▼ -.15	+18.8
57 GATX	4,004	113.77	▲ +5.71	+11.9
58 Envestnet Inc	3,670	66.35	▲ +0.3	-4.7
59 Kemper Corp	3,569	55.88	▲ +2.24	-5.7
60 John Bean Technol	3,483	109.33	▲ +10.48	-19.8
61 Federal Signal	3,241	53.46	▲ +2.59	+38.2
62 Equity Commonwlt	2,781	25.42	▼ -.06	+4.4
63 Hub Group Inc	2,729	83.59	▲ +5.5	+8.5
64 TreeHouse Foods	2,675	47.71	▲ +1.01	+20.0
65 Fst Midw Bcp	2,455	21.51	—	...
66 Stepan Co	2,387	107.40	▼ -1.02	-1.2
67 Gogo Inc	2,113	16.61	▲ +9.1	+31.5
68 Veradigm Inc	1,939	17.75	▼ -.75	-10.0
69 Toatsm	1,760	43.69	▲ +4.7	+34.4
70 Adtalem Global Educ	1,736	38.25	▲ +5.9	+30.8
71 Knowles Corp	1,736	19.09	▲ +7.5	-9.0
72 AAR Corp	1,729	50.20	▲ +2.00	+26.4
73 Addus HomeCare	1,714	106.40	▼ -3.18	+41.1
74 Methode Electronics	1,695	46.97	▲ +1.15	+7.8
75 MYR Group	1,614	97.28	▼ -.06	+9.1
76 Teleph Data	1,429	13.46	▲ +1.26	-29.5
77 Ryerson Holding	1,400	37.85	▲ +4.09	+90.1
78 Enova Intl Inc	1,393	44.30	▲ +3.34	+6.9
79 Horace Mann	1,385	33.88	▼ -3.04	-5.8
80 Huron Consulting Gp	1,350	67.73	▼ -1.04	+57.8
81 US Cellular	1,279	24.50	▲ +1.44	-19.7
82 First Bussey Corp	1,262	2.85	▼ -1.18	-15.2
83 Coeur Mining	1,112	39.6	▼ -.21	-13.5
84 Titan Intl	1,031	16.41	▲ +1.4	+67.9
85 Century Aluminum	1,003	10.99	▲ +3.5	-32.0
86 Heritage-Crystal Cln	894	37.00	▼ -.06	+35.7
87 QCR Holdings Inc	849	50.33	▲ +4.9	-15.0
88 Distribution Solu Gr	788	40.67	▲ +1.21	-12.4
89 ANI Pharma	761	43.61	▲ +1.59	+6.2
90 SunCoke Energy Inc	757	9.08	▼ -.19	+29.3
91 Old Second Bcp	745	16.73	▲ +1.51	+31.7
92 SP Plu Corp	739	36.68	▲ +.88	+33.9
93 Sanfilippo John	729	81.67	▲ +2.98	+2.2
94 Fst Mid Bancshares	643	31.47	▼ -.47	-20.9
95 Heidrick & Struggles	596	30.02	▲ +6.1	-29.1
96 Acco Brands Corp	583	6.19	▲ +0.9	-21.7
97 OneSpan Inc	556	14.03	▲ +7.4	-9.4
98 Consolidated Commu	500	4.43	▲ +.19	-39.4
99 Great Lakes Dredge	449	6.79	▲ +0.9	-51.1
100 Groupin Inc	281	9.24	▲ +1.23	-66.6

No relief on taxation of Social Security benefits

By Joy Taylor

Kiplinger's Personal Finance

Q: Given the high rate of inflation, does that mean the income limits for avoiding taxes on Social Security benefits will be going up now?

A: Although many income-tax breaks and income levels are indexed to inflation each year, some important ones are not. And taxation of Social Security benefits is one of them.

Inflation essentially causes the value of these non-adjusted items to diminish. That decrease in value accumulates over time and grows more rapidly in times of rising inflation. That's why some might again refer to these as stealth tax hikes.

Take your Social Security benefits. For decades, the income thresholds at which Social Security benefits start getting taxed have stayed at \$32,000 for married couples filing a joint return and \$25,000 for single filers. These income thresholds don't go up with inflation, despite the fact that Social Security benefits rise each year, and people are generally earning more money than they did in the past.

As a result, more cumulative Social Security benefits will be taxed in 2022 than in 2021, in 2023 than in 2022, and so forth.

Other key tax breaks also aren't adjusted for inflation annually.

For instance, many homeowners are aware

of the general tax rule for home sales. If you have owned and lived in your main home for at least two out of five years leading up to the sale, up to \$250,000 (\$500,000 for couples filing a joint tax return) of your gain is tax-free, with any excess taxed at long-term capital gains tax rates. These \$250,000 and \$500,000 amounts might seem high, but they've never been adjusted for the appreciation in residential real estate during the 25 years this popular tax break has been in effect.

Two Obamacare surtaxes on upper-income individuals aren't adjusted for inflation, either.

The 3.8% surtax on net investment income, such as dividends, rents, interest and capital gains, applies to single filers with modified adjusted gross incomes above \$200,000 and to joint filers with modified AGIs over \$250,000. Modified AGI for this purpose is AGI plus tax-free foreign earned income.

The 0.9% additional Medicare surtax on earned income, such as employee wages and self-employment income, kicks in for single filers with earned incomes over \$200,000 and for joint filers with earned incomes above \$250,000.

The \$200,000 and \$250,000 income thresholds for both of these surtaxes have remained stagnant since the surtaxes first took effect in 2013, despite the growth in wages and incomes over



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SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023

Cautious climb:

Challenges, pitfalls and wins await new managers

Is there an employee under more scrutiny than the new manager? Each action, statement and decision is checked for flaws under a bright light, so how do new managers avoid some of the common mistakes most make after accepting the job?

The first thing to remember is that you're always learning, whether you're the intern or the CEO. In fact, the biggest mistake you can make is thinking you have all the answers on Day One, according to Jonathon Stillwell, an HR specialist in Spokane, Washington. "I'm not even talking about knowledge of the job or knowledge about the industry," Stillwell says. "Knowing everything, especially in the beginning, means you're coming in with preconceived notions about the people you'll be working with, whether they're your employees, other managers or directors and VPs," he says. "New managers can be loyal to their peers, people they've worked with, people they've reported to, and that's fine. But management is different. Working responsibilities shift, as do roles. It's important to come in with a clear attitude and no assumptions about your coworkers."

Stillwell says before moving people to new positions to help fill out your team, you must consider who has the skill set for new responsibilities. "You have to approach it with fresh eyes," he says. "It's incredibly important to draw a line between decisions based on practicality and those based on emotion."

Still, there's a difference between approaching decisions and managing others with a clear mind and approaching decisions and managing others with a cold heart, and ignoring the emotional impact of any decision can sidetrack a new manager. In a column in a recent issue of the Harvard Business Review, Columbia University's Heidi Grant Halvorson pointed out that it's important for new managers to build trust with their new employees. "Your warmth – being friendly, kind, loyal, empathetic – is taken as evidence that you have good intentions toward your team members. If you are warm, you are probably someone who has their back. If you are cold, you could turn on them at any moment," Grant Halvorson writes.

Establishing relationships is important but new managers should realize that it's not essential to be an employee's



Dreamstime

friend. Instead, it's important to earn their trust. And until proven otherwise, trust them back in return.

"I think new managers want that back-and-forth, that 'hey, how was your weekend' chatter with their coworkers right away and it just doesn't work that way, especially if you're entering a new job in a new department or at a new company with people who have worked together for some time," says Edward Mancini, an executive trainer in Houston, Texas. "You can't expect there to be a comfort level with others from the first day. Everyone is feeling out the new situation and they need time to make their own assessments of others. Your role is to maintain a high level of professionalism as everyone finds their place in the new structure."

If you want a friendly relationship with your new team, be sure you're cautious about how you establish relationships. "Don't be too hard on your new team members," says career consultant Patricia West. "Continually checking up on new employees is a surefire way to demonstrate a lack of trust and almost always ends badly. If you're treating people as if they are untrustworthy by tracking their every move and then calling them out every time there's a mistake, you're setting everyone up for failure, including yourself."

West also stresses the importance of listening, adding that when employees feel heard and listened to, they feel like they're part of a team that's built for success. "Bad feelings lend themselves to bad performance," West says. "We think we can compartmentalize someone's anger and distrust in the workplace when in fact, it's impacting how they perform."

Effective communication skills are among the top abilities that employers look for in job candidates but they're just as important in long-time employees, especially those who've been given the opportunity to manage others. "Despite its impact on workplace efficiency, communication is a skill many struggle to perfect, often due to people forgetting the most important component of effective communication, which is active listening," says Marsha Ludden, author of the "Effective Workplace Communications" (Jist, \$11.95). "Learning to listen has rewards. Good listening skills will reflect positively on your work record. An employee who has shown the ability to listen and follow directions will earn the respect of their peers and their managers. And managers who listen to their employees earn their respect as well."

— Marco Buscaglia

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CAREERS

Turning negatives into positives: 4 ways to take the bad stuff at work and flip it around

As HR departments of both small and large companies continue to tweak their employee benefits to attract and retain employees, why are so many employees unhappy?

Well, there's pay, of course. And time off. And ... you get the picture. But after a steady period of unprecedented job growth and career opportunities, maybe it's time to stop looking elsewhere for the good stuff and instead, begin looking within.

Tim Bono, author of "When Likes Aren't Enough: A Crash Course in the Science of Happiness" (Grand Central Life & Style, \$25), and the assistant dean in psychological and brain sciences at Washington University in St. Louis, has a few tips on turning bad into good:

- Enjoy the cold: Bono says that research confirms a few minutes walking around in nature, even during the winter, can boost both mood and energy levels. "Exercise is key to our psychological health because it releases the brain's feel-good chemicals," he says.

- Positive follows negative: Anticipation itself is pleasurable and looking forward to an enjoyable experience can make it all that much sweeter, according to Bono. "Wait a couple of days before seeing a new movie that just came out, plan your big vacation for later in the summer and try to take time to savor each bite of dessert," Bono says. "On the flip side, get negative tasks out of the way as quickly as possible. Anticipation will only make them seem worse."

- Embrace failure: People who overcome adversity do better in life because they learn to cope with

challenges. "Failure is a great teacher, helping us realize what doesn't work so we can make changes for the better," Bono says.

- Give it up: Exercising willpower muscles in small, everyday behaviors strengthens your ability to stay focused at work. "Resisting the temptation to check our phone for new text messages or emails when we're walking somewhere, or resisting the temptation to get the candy bar when we're in the checkout line at the grocery store, allows our willpower muscles to become stronger and in turn, resistant to temptations that could sidetrack us in other aspects of our lives," Bono says.

— Marco Buscaglia



Dreamtime

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Application Engineer	
Riverwoods, IL	Apply Online

DFS CORPORATE SERVICES LLC - seeks Application Engineer in Riverwoods, IL to oversee design & implementation of products assigned to team. Req'mts: Bachelor's or equiv in CS, Electronic Eng'g, or rel. field & 3 yrs of exp: building & maintaining data mgmt & synthetic test data generation solutions efficiently on mainframe & distributed platforms; analyzing existing systems/procedures for any bottlenecks & recommending for improvements; design end-to-end solution; utilizing security controls throughout software development lifecycle while maintaining awareness of industry security standards, incl PCI DSS; applying security engineering principles in designs & solutions; automating manual processes for any existing tools & operations w/in environments; utilizing languages, tools, & tech throughout SDLC; incl Test data tools; incl IBM Optim, GenRocket, & mainframe/distributed tech that enable automation, incl Rexx & Shell Scripting; & utilizing Agile methodologies. Telecommuting &/or working from home may be permissible pursuant to company policies. Pls apply directly through website at <https://jobs.discover.com> for Job ID R24469 by clicking on "Apply Now." EOE/D/V.

Application Engineer	
Riverwoods, IL	Apply Online

DFS CORPORATE SERVICES LLC - seeks Application Engineer in Riverwoods, IL to oversee design & implementation of products assigned to team. Req'mts: Bachelor's or equiv in CS, Comp Eng'g, or rel. field & 3 yrs exp: breaking down complex req'ts into workable technical solutions; working w/ cross functional IT teams to complete project activities; performing technical design & ensuring it meets architectural & design standards; performing app development, testing, & implementation of software solutions; analyzing & identifying technical areas of improvement w/in web apps; & utilizing Java, Spring Boot, GitHub, Jenkins, & Pivotal Cloud Foundry. Telecommuting &/or work from home permissible pursuant to co. policies. Pls apply through <https://jobs.discover.com> for Job ID R24410 by clicking on "Apply Now." EOE/D/V.

Application Engineer	
Riverwoods, IL	Apply Online

DFS CORPORATE SERVICES LLC - seeks Application Engineer in Riverwoods, IL to oversee design & implementation of products assigned to team. Req'mts: Bachelor's or equiv in CS, Computer Eng'g, IT, or rel. field & 3 yrs of exp: developing RESTful web services using Java; utilizing tech, incl SpringBoot, Spring Security, & Spring Cloud; implementing web services security; utilizing tech, incl SOAP services, Hibernate, & SQL; utilizing cloud tech, incl Pivotal Cloud Foundry (PCF), AWS, & Jenkins CI/CD pipelines; & implementing monitoring & logging tools incl AppDynamics, Kibana, & Splunk. Telecommuting &/or working from home may be permissible pursuant to company policy. Pls apply directly through website at <https://jobs.discover.com> for Job ID R24415 by clicking on "Apply Now." EOE/D/V.

Associate Actuary	
Chicago, IL	Apply by Mail or Email

MILLIMAN, INC. - Analyze statistical data, such as mortality, accident, sickness, disability, and retirement rates and construct probability tables to forecast risk and liability for payment of future benefits. Develop variable annuity (VA) products through actuarial modeling and develop hedging strategies to hedge market risk for VA products. Conduct mathematical and statistical analysis for risk management for insurance companies. Analyze statistical data, model asset and liability in-force, calculate reserve, and GAAP valuation for life insurance estimations. Analyze mortality, accident, sickness, disability, retirement rates to construct probability tables. Support the development of valuation models for US statutory and GAAP LDTI reporting using Integrate and MG-ALFA. Require a Master's Degree in Actuarial Science, or Statistics, or Quantitative Methods, or Mathematics with concentration in Actuarial Science, or foreign equivalent. Permanent U.S. work auth. required. Resumes to: Milliman, Inc. 71 S. Wacker Dr., 31st Fl., Chicago, IL 60606. Or by email to: ChicagoHR@milliman.com. Attn.: GF-HLRY

Associate Actuary	
Chicago, IL	Apply by Mail or Email

MILLIMAN, INC. - Associate Actuary, Chicago, IL: Analyze statistical data, such as mortality, accident, sickness, disability, and retirement rates and construct probability tables to forecast risk and liability for payment of future benefits. Develop variable annuity (VA) products through actuarial modeling and develop hedging strategies to hedge market risk for VA products. Conduct mathematical and statistical analysis for risk management for insurance companies. Analyze statistical data, model asset and liability in-force, calculate reserve, and GAAP valuation for life insurance estimations. Analyze mortality, accident, sickness, disability, retirement rates to construct probability tables. Support the development of valuation models for US statutory and GAAP LDTI reporting using Integrate and MG-ALFA. Require a Master's Degree in Actuarial Science, or Statistics, or Quantitative Methods, or Mathematics/Applied Science, or Business Administration with Actuarial Science major, or foreign equivalent. Permanent U.S. work auth. required. Resumes to: Milliman, Inc. 71 S. Wacker Dr., 31st Fl., Chicago, IL 60606. Or by email to: ChicagoHR@milliman.com. Attn.: GF-MACM

Associate Director, Client Analytics	
Chicago, IL	Apply by Email

EVOLVENT HEALTH LLC - (Chicago, IL - Telecommuting Permissible) (Multiple positions). Integrate & analyze claims & enrollment data from multiple sources to facilitate reporting for client health plans. Req. Masters degree or foreign equiv in Bus Analytics, Stats, or related field & 2 yrs exp in job offered or in a position responsible for performing data analysis of large datasets related to health. Must've relevant work exp. Apply resume/cv to Evolvent Health LLC, Ref# SL2022, humanresources@evolventhealth.com. No calls. EOE

Client Rep/Data Analyst	
Rockville, MD	Apply by Email

COMPUTER PACKAGES INC. - specializing in Intellectual Property management software and services is seeking motivated individuals to assist clients with patent portfolio management. Comprehensive in-house training. Recent or upcoming graduates with some customer service and/or technical experience preferred. Excellent salary & benefits and strong opportunity for growth. Please send resume to: cpjobs@computerpackages.com

Client Rep/Data Analyst	
Rockville, MD	Apply by Email

COMPUTER PACKAGES INC. - a global business specializing in Intellectual Property software and services is seeking Client Service Reps to assist our clients in managing their patent assets. Computer skills, interpersonal skills and a desire to learn to and grow with our company required. Excellent benefits including health insurance, tuition reimbursement, pension/401k, gym membership and strong opportunity for growth. Resume only to cpjobs@computerpackages.com

Consultant, Technology Consulting - Cyber Security	
Chicago, IL	Apply Online

ERNST & YOUNG U.S. LLP - Consultant, Technology Consulting - Cyber Security (Cyber Threat Management-Vulnerability ID) (Manager) (Multiple Positions). Provide advisory services on technology risk and security to help clients protect themselves against cyber attacks. Requires travel up to 80%, of which 20% may be international, to serve client needs. Employer will accept any suitable combination of education, training, or experience. \$ 174,445 per year. For complete job description, list of requirements, and to apply online, go to: ey.com/en_us/careers and click on "Careers - Job Search", then "Search Jobs" (Job Number - 1388806).

Consulting, Specialist Senior	
Chicago, IL	Apply Online

DELOITTE CONSULTING LLP - seeks a Consulting, Specialist Senior in Chicago, IL and various unanticipated Deloitte office locations and client sites nationally to drive Oracle software advisory and implementation services to help companies unlock the value of big technology investments as discrete services or comprehensive solutions in the Insurance, Financial Services, Healthcare, State and Local Government, Telecommunications, and Retail Industries. 50% Travel required nationally. Telecommuting permitted. To apply visit apply.deloitte.com. Enter XBAL23FC0123CHI10686 in "Search jobs" field. EOE, including disability/veterans.

Cyber Director	
Chicago, IL	Apply by email or online

GOTHAM DIGITAL SCIENCE, LLC - Cyber Director sought by Gotham Digital Science, LLC, an Aon Corporation company, based out of headquarters in Chicago, IL to perform cybersecurity analysis & mgmt. Manage direct reports. May work from home 5 days/wk. Reqs a Master's deg in Comp Info Systems, Engng, or a rtd field + 2 yrs (or Bach deg + 5 progressive yrs) of cybersecurity analysis exp. Must have at least 2 yrs of exp in each of the following: Serving as the subject matter expert for application security activities incl threat analysis, secure code analysis, dynamic application security testing, API security, & mobile application security; Understanding & defining penetration testing needs for web applications, external & internal n/work infrastructures, & automated tools; Conducting analysis of application layer assessment tools, incl Burp Suite & fuzzers/proxies, & n/work layer assessment tools, incl nmap & Nessus; Utilizing knowl of Unix, Windows, & n/working to conduct penetration testing; Managing the technical delivery of engagements across disciplines incl web application, security code review, mobile security, external/internal n/work security, social engg, & red team engagements; Providing quality assurance & technical review of client deliverables & internal documentation; & Managing direct reports. Will accept any suitable combo of education, training, or exp. All positions req an applicant who has accepted an offer to undergo a background check. Candidates must send resume to aonresumes@aon.com & cite requisition number 00671 or apply at jobs.aon.com

Data Engineer	
Chicago, IL	citadelrecruitment@citadel.com

CITADEL AMERICAS SERVICES LLC - Data Engineer (Citadel Americas Services LLC - Chicago, IL); Mult pos avail. Coordinate the design, development & maintenance of complex data ingestion processes & data products that assist in the investment research process. F/T. Reqs a Bach degree (or foreign equiv) in CS, Info Tech, Engin, Physics, Math, Stats, Econ or a rel. field. Edu, training or exp must include the following: software engineer; perform data mining & transformation as well as Web data extraction; systems design including translation of business requirements into systems functionalities & build clear user interfaces; programming in Python or similar; data structures, algorithms or computer architecture; big data processing & cloud tech including Spark, Hadoop, AWS S3 or similar; & database development in MS SQL Server, HP Vertica, Snowflake, MongoDB or similar. Resumes: citadelrecruitment@citadel.com. Job ID: 7028755.

Divisional Director	
Libertyville, IL	Apply by Mail

ORION PROJECT SERVICES - Responsible for the strategy, management and overall operational leadership of the Life Science brand across North America. Apply w/resume to: Ross Mackey, Orion Project Services, 1300 W. Sam Houston Pkwy. S., Ste. 215, Houston, TX 77042. No rel. available. No 3rd party responses. EOE.

FPGA Engineer	
Chicago, IL	Apply by Email

CITADEL SECURITIES AMERICAS SERVICES LLC - Mult pos avail: Research, design & implement ultra-low latency field-programmable gate array (FPGA) based custom firm track systems in register transfer level (RTL) designs to provide hardware solution for fast network, high performance computing & real-time acceleration. F/T. Reqs a Bach degree (or foreign equiv) in CS, Comp Engin, Elec Engin or rel. field. Edu, train, or exp must include the following: full FPGA system design lifecycle; FPGA systems research, design & implementation; RTL coding in Verilog, System Verilog or VHDL; create FPGA design flows, network & system level protocols, packet based data processing & control; and, work in Linux operating system. Resumes: citadelrecruitment@citadel.com. Job ID: 7028773.

IBMI Database Administrator	
Rockville, MD	Apply by Email

COMPUTER PACKAGES INC. - an international business specializing in Intellectual Property management is seeking Database Admin. with strong background with IBMi (AS/400) operations, administration and/or programming. Similar experience will be considered. Position is based in Maryland and relocation assistance offered, if needed. Excellent salary, benefits and opportunity for growth. Please send resume to: cpjobs@computerpackages.com

Identity Access Management Architect	
Schaumburg, IL	Apply by Email

PAYLOCITY CORPORATION - Identity Access Management Architect for Paylocity Corporation in Schaumburg, IL to lead efforts with role mining most critical applications and help institute Attribute Based Provisioning using Role Based Access Control (RBAC) and role governance processes. Requires: BS in Elec. Engng. or related field & 5 yrs. of exp. architecting IAM programs, including Identity and Access Governance products such as Sailpoint, CA Identity Manager and Oracle Identity Manager. Submit resume to Paylocity Corporation, Alyssa Van-Paepegheham at avanpaepegheham@paylocity.com. Reference Position Number: 036757-000051.

IT Advisor	
Chicago, IL	Apply Online

ERNST & YOUNG U.S. LLP - IT Advisor, Technology Consulting - Digital Emerging Technologies - Microsoft (M365) Modern Workplace (Manager) (Multiple Positions). Design, customization and optimization of digital workplace solutions, with Microsoft 365 and Azure. Requires domestic and international travel up to 50% to serve client needs. Employer will accept any suitable combination of education, training, or experience. \$181,801.00 per year. For complete job description, list of requirements, and to apply online, go to: ey.com/en_us/careers and click on "Careers - Job Search", then "Search Jobs" (Job Number - 1404157).

Lead Data Science Analyst	
Riverwoods, IL	Apply Online

DISCOVER PRODUCTS INC. - seeks Lead Data Science Analyst in Riverwoods, IL to work closely w/ mgmt. to execute analytical initiatives. Req'mts: Bachelor's or foreign equiv in Bus. Analytics, Info Mgmt, Stats, Math, Electrical Eng'g, or rel quantitative field & 4 yrs exp in job offered or rel occupation: utilizing stat methods, techniques, formulas, & tests to build call volume forecasting solutions; writing algorithms to enable data processing & diagnosis; utilizing stats, multi-variable calculus, & linear algebra techniques, incl time series forecasting models such as ARIMA, ARIMAX, & Prophet; & performing data pre-processing & ad hoc analysis, tracking metric performance on dashboards, & building machine learning models using cloud-based Tableau & python environ. In alternative, employer will accept Masters or foreign equiv in 1 of above listed fields & 2 yrs exp in above listed skills. Telecommute &/or work from home permissible pursuant to co. policies. Pls apply thru <https://jobs.discover.com> for Job ID R24397 by clicking on "Apply Now." EOE/D/V.

Lead DMS Improvement Analyst	
Riverwoods, IL	Apply Online

DFS CORPORATE SERVICES LLC - seeks Lead DMS Improvement Analyst in Riverwoods, IL, to deliver chartered targeted improvements that bring bus. impact w/ measurable outcomes. Promote risk-aware culture to ensure efficient & effective risk & compliance mgmt practices by adhering to req'd standards & processes. Req'mts: Bachelor's or foreign equiv in Industrial Eng'g, Mechanical Eng'g, Eng'g Technology, or rel. field & 2 yrs of exp in job offered or rel. occupation: performing data & statistical analysis to identify problems & suggest solutions; working on process improvement projects utilizing Lean, Six Sigma & Green Belt methodologies; designing & implementing process improvement & change mgmt programs; utilizing app of Lean principles & tools, incl process mapping, visual mgmt, problem solving methodology, standardized work, seven kinds of waste, Kanban systs, value stream mapping & error proofing; utilizing project Mgmt skills to lead, manage & facilitate improvement events; managing, building, & enhancing continuous improvement programs; & coaching leaders on daily improvement syst. & lean principles. Telecommuting &/or working from home may be permissible pursuant to company policies. Pls apply directly through our website at <https://jobs.discover.com> for Job ID R24418 by clicking on "Apply Now." EOE/D/V.

Scan the list, see who's hiring, then go online for more details or to apply.

Lead Software Engineer	
Chicago, IL	Apply Online

CATERPILLAR INC. - Multiple Openings. May work remote w/in commuting distance of work location. Resp. for ongoing web service app. design & development to support CAT & dealer business needs; perform architecture design & architecture of large scale systems. Req's: Bachelor's (or foreign equiv.) in Comp. Sci., Comp. Eng., I.T. or close & 7 yrs. exp. or Master's (or foreign equiv.) in same & 5 yrs. exp. Apply at www.caterpillar.com/careers. Reference Job No. R0000173627. EEO/AA Employer. All qualified individuals, incl. minorities, females, vets & individuals w/ disabilities encouraged to apply.

Lead, Infra N&T Admin	
Chicago, IL	Apply online or by mail

THE NORTHERN TRUST COMPANY - seeks a Lead, Infra N&T Admin to plan and carry out network security measures and provide guidance to the business unit throughout the project development cycle. Design technology improvement solutions to include network security into workflow. Design secured access to services, design infrastructure to host services in protected DMZs, and ensure that security designs meet regulatory requirements. Act as the principal designer for firewall/network security systems and their subsystems utilizing a thorough understanding of available technologies, tools, and existing designs. Identify and specify complex business requirements to incorporate network security to meet regulatory and compliance requirements. Position requires a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science, Electronic Engineering, Information Systems, or a related STEM field, followed by 8 years of progressively responsible experience with network and security administration. Experience must include a minimum of: 5 years of experience with diagnosing and fixing network connectivity issues; 3 years of experience acting as the principal designer for enterprise firewall and network security systems and their subsystems; 5 years of experience with supporting and defining enterprise security requirements; 5 years of experience with Network Access Control (NAC) and IP Address Management (IPAM) solutions; and 5 years of experience of cybersecurity principles as applicable to global financial services business models, as well as regional compliance standards, relevant local regulations, and applicable laws. Job location: Naperville, IL. To apply, please visit <https://careers.northerntrust.com> and enter job requisition number 23009 when prompted. Alternatively, please send your resume, cover letter, and a copy of the ad to: Mayur Patil, 181 W. Madison 5th Floor, Chicago, IL 60602.

Manager Business Strategy	
Riverwoods, IL	Apply Online

DISCOVER PRODUCTS INC. - seeks Manager Business Strategy in Riverwoods, IL to manage development, implementation, strategies, & other activities. Req'mts: Bachelor's or equiv in Bus. Admin, Econ., Stats, Finance, or rel. field & 6 yrs of progressively responsible exp: assessing bus. data to manage complex decision-making using platform specific apps, incl FICO Blaze Advisor & DWP; utilizing programming languages, incl Java & SQL; adhering to best practices of coding standards using Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe) rel. to development & deployment; & leading project teams through implementation, incl coaching, mentorship, & technological guidance. In alternative, employer will accept Master's or equiv in 1 of above mentioned fields & 4 yrs of exp in above-listed areas. Telecommuting &/or working from home may be permissible pursuant to company policies. Pls apply directly through our website at <https://jobs.discover.com> for Job ID R24404 by clicking on "Apply Now." EOE/D/V.

MGR - Global Tech Data Engineer	
Chicago, IL	Apply by Email

MCDONALDS - Work cross-functionally with product, engineering, design, and marketing teams to build world-class products and design hypothesis-driven experiments. To apply, please e-mail resume to Beata Meyers beata.meyers@us.mcd.com. Please refer to job #20831.108.

Pastor	
Chicago, IL	Apply by Mail

CHICAGO ROTEM MISSION CHURCH - As an Ordained Pastor, oversee church worship services and evangelical activities; Master of Divinity, Theology or related; Chicago Rotem Mission Church 5433 N. Lincoln Ave. Chicago, IL 60625

Principal Application Engnr	
Riverwoods, IL	Apply Online

DFS CORPORATE SERVICES LLC - seeks Principal Application Eng' in Riverwoods, IL to use vast repertoire of delivering high impact software solutions to work intuitively. Req'mts: Bachelor's or foreign equiv in CS, Electronic Eng'g, or rel. field of study & 6 yrs progressively responsible exp in job offered or rel position: using automation test tools, incl Selenium, TestAssured, UFT, JMeter, Jenkins, Wiremock, Postman, & Spring Containers; creating & running automated tests using commercial & open source tools, incl Selenium, UFT, Ruby, & Cucumber; utilizing API & Svc testing; working w/ test data mgmt. principles, incl data security mgmt techniques, incl sub-setting & masking, test data generation, & virtualization; utilizing Java/J2EE, Spring Boot, & cloud technologies; & utilizing DevOps & CI/CD processes. Telecommuting &/or working from home permissible pursuant to co. policies. Pls apply thru <https://jobs.discover.com> for Job ID R24395 by clicking on "Apply Now." EOE/D/V.

Principal Application Eng'r	
Riverwoods, IL	Apply Online

DFS CORPORATE SERVICES LLC - seeks Principal Application Eng' in Riverwoods, IL to use vast repertoire of delivering high impact software solutions to work intuitively. Req'mts: Bachelor's or foreign equiv in CS, Computer Eng'g, or rel. field & 6 yrs of progressively responsible exp: developing apps w/BPM tech, incl IBM BAW or Alfresco/Activiti; writing code utilizing object-oriented principles, incl encapsulation, abstraction, inheritance, polymorphism, & SOLID design principles; developing REST APIs & SOAP Services for both provider & consumer (integrations); utilizing tech, incl Bus. Process Model Notation (BPMN), Java, JavaScript, SQL database, CI/CD pipelines w/Jenkins, Git/GitHub. Telecommuting &/or working from home may be permissible pursuant to company policies. Pls apply directly through our website at <https://jobs.discover.com> for Job ID R24407 by clicking on "Apply Now." EOE/D/V.

Principal Data Science	
Riverwoods, IL	Apply Online

DISCOVER PRODUCTS INC. - seeks Principal Data Science in Riverwoods, IL to work closely w/ mgmt to execute analytical initiatives. Req'mts: Bachelor's or foreign equiv in Bus. Analytics, Statistics, Maths, or rel. field & 6 yrs of progressively responsible exp in job offered or rel. occupation: working w/ statistical methods, incl advanced regression methodologies, hypothesis testing, statistical tests, & A/B testing; utilizing Python & R scripting; developing & automating reports to develop & implement ML models & completing statistical analysis; utilizing SQL language to pull data from multiple databases using complex join algorithms; utilizing Tableau to develop interactive dashboards, incl charts to monitor card portfolio health visual displays of quantitative info; utilizing Cloud Computing to manage large volumes of data, schedule monthly reporting jobs, & handle streaming data; & program in SAS language. In alternative, employer will accept Master's or foreign equiv in above-listed fields & 4 yrs of exp w/ above listed skills. Telecommuting &/or working from home may be permissible pursuant to company policies. Pls apply directly through our website at <https://jobs.discover.com> for Job ID R24380 by clicking on "Apply Now." EOE/D/V.

Principal Data Science	
Riverwoods, IL	Apply Online

DISCOVER PRODUCTS INC. - seeks Principal Data Science in Riverwoods, IL to work closely w/ mgmt. to execute analytical initiatives. Req'mts: Bachelor's or equiv in Analytics, Stats, Econ., Finance, Math, or rel. field & 6 yrs of progressively responsible exp: providing bus. analysis & diving SAS & SQL code; design & developing processing solutions using SAS & SQL tools; developing data visualization frameworks using tools, incl Blueworks Live, Visio, & Tableau; utilizing cloud platforms & rel. components, incl SAS Enterprise Miner (EM), & SAS Studio; utilizing database tech, incl Snowflake & Teradata Studio; & working in Unix & Windows Operating System-based environments. In alternative, employer will accept Master's or equiv in 1 of above-listed fields & 4 yrs of exp in above-listed skills. Telecommuting &/or working from home is permissible pursuant to company policies. Pls apply directly through website at <https://jobs.discover.com> for Job ID R24412 by clicking on "Apply Now." EOE/D/V.

Principal Infrastructure Engineer	
Riverwoods, IL	Apply Online

DFS CORPORATE SERVICES LLC - seeks Principal Infrastructure Engineer in Riverwoods, IL to work intuitively & use experience to deliver high impact eng'g solutions. Req'mts: Bachelor's or equiv in CS, Electronic Eng'g, Comp Eng'g, or rel. field & 6 yrs of progressively responsible exp: performing database performance tuning & advanced database creation, upgrade, migration, & patching; performing automation using scripts; & performing database high availability & disaster recovery replication. Telecommuting &/or working from home may be permissible pursuant to company policies. Pls apply directly through our website at <https://jobs.discover.com> for Job ID R24378 by clicking on "Apply Now." EOE/D/V.

Product Owner	
Riverwoods, IL	Apply Online

DISCOVER PRODUCTS INC. - seeks Product Owner in Riverwoods, IL to ensure outcome for product is delivered that meets requests from stakeholders & customers. Req'mts: Bachelor's or equiv in Bus. Admin, Marketing, or rel. field & 4 yrs of exp: utilizing Scaled Agile methodology; utilizing project mgmt software & platforms, incl Rally & JIRA; creating wireframes, storyboards, user flows, process flows, & site maps using Blueworks Live; performing rapid prototyping using HTML, CSS, & JavaScript; performing multi-variant testing, content strategy, email campaigns, marketing campaign automation, & user exp optimization; utilizing tag mgmt software & platforms, incl Signal Adobe Launch & Tealium for digital tracking & analytics; & utilizing Google Analytics & Adobe Analytics for digital web properties. In alternative, employer will accept Master's or equiv in 1 of above

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY >>

Quantitative Researcher

Chicago, IL

Apply by Email

CITADEL SECURITIES AMERICAS SERVICES LLC - Mult. Pos. avail. Formulate mathematical & simulation models of complex mrkt problems, relating constants & variables, restrictions, alternatives, conflicting objectives, & their numerical parameters using technology, math & stat model'g, & comp systems. F/T. Reqs a Ph.D. (or foreign equiv) in Stat, Math, Physics, Comp Sci, Eng, or a rel quant field. In lieu of a Ph.D. (or foreign equiv) in stated field, will accept a Bach degree (or foreign equiv) in stated field plus 5 yrs of quant research exp, or a Master's degree (or foreign equiv) in stated field plus 3 yrs of quant research exp. Edu, train'g, or exp must incl the follow'g: utiliz'g time-series or cross-sectional analysis; solv'g complex data intensive problems utiliz'g adv mathematical & statistical model'g techniques incl Robust Regression, Statistical Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, or similar; C++ or OOD program'm'g; high-level interpreted languages incl R, Matlab, Python, or similar; & analyz'g gigabyte or tera-byte sized large datasets. Resumes: citadelrecruitment@citadel.com. JobID: 7028778.

Quantitative Researcher

Chicago, IL

Apply by Email

CITADEL AMERICAS SERVICES LLC - Mult. Pos. avail. Formulate mathematical & simulation models of complex mrkt problems, relating constants & variables, restrictions, alternatives, conflicting objectives, & their numerical parameters using technology, math & stat model'g, & comp systems. F/T. Reqs a Ph.D. (or foreign equiv) in Stat, Math, Physics, Comp Sci, Eng, Finan, or a rel quant field. In lieu of a Ph.D. (or foreign equiv) in stated field, will accept a Bach degree (or foreign equiv) in stated field plus 5 yrs of quant research exp, or a Master's degree (or foreign equiv) in stated field plus 3 yrs of quant research exp. Edu, train'g, or exp must incl the follow'g: apply g adv statistical & mathematical model'g techniques including time-series analysis, cross-sectional analysis, Statistical Machine Learning, Natural Language Process'g, or similar; C++ or OOD program'm'g; statistical packages incl R, Matlab, Pytorch, or similar; script'g languages incl bash, PERL, Python, or similar; & analyz'g gigabyte or terabyte sized large datasets. Resumes: citadelrecruitment@citadel.com. JobID: 7028763.

Quantitative Developer

Chicago, IL

Apply by Email

CITADEL AMERICAS SERVICES LLC - Mult pos avail. Collab with rsrch teams to dsgn & implement quant tools & strat for rsrch innovations across asset classes. F/T. Reqs a Bach degree (or foreign equiv) in CS, Stat, Engin, Math, Physics, or rel quant field. Edu, train, or exp must include the follow'g: work'g in SW dev; stat model'g techniques includ'g time-series analysis, Stat Machine Learn'g, Natural Language Process'g, pattern recognition, or sim; data collect-ion, cleans'g, & process'g; big data analytics; program'm'g with C, C++, Java, Python, SQL, R, or Kdb+/q; object-oriented analysis & design; & data structures, algorithms, & comp arch paradigms. Resumes: citadelrecruitment@citadel.com. JobID: 7028757.

Quantitative Developer

Chicago, IL

Apply by Email

CITADEL SECURITIES AMERICAS SERVICES LLC - Mult pos avail. Dvlp & deploy internal apps & software solutions for quant rsrch platforms. F/T. Reqs a Bach degree (or foreign equiv) in CS, Engin, or rel field. Edu, train, or exp must include the follow'g: C++ programming on a Unix platform; multi-threaded app program'm'g & network program'm'g; script'g languages includ'g Python, Perl, Unix, Linux shell script'g, or sim; analytical packages includ'g R, Matlab, or similar; Unix Inter-Process Communication (IPC) mechanisms includ'g sockets & semaphores; data structures, algorithms, & computer architecture; & Machine Learning techniques. Resumes: citadelrecruitment@citadel.com. JobID: 7028302.

Quantitative Research Analyst

Chicago, IL

Apply by Email

CITADEL AMERICAS SERVICES LLC - Mult pos avail. Analyze & solve complex market probs through the use of tech, math and stat model'g, & comp systems. F/T. Reqs a Bach degree (or foreign equiv) in Stat, CS, Engin, Math, Physics, Ops Res, or a rel quant field. Edu, train, or exp must include the follow'g: conduct'g data-intensive investment-rel res & analysis; adv math & stat model'g include'g time-series analysis, cross-sectional analysis, Statistical Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, pattern recognition, or sim; & performing computations & rsrch with program'm'g languages includ'g Python, R, C++, Matlab, Julia, or similar. Resumes: citadelrecruitment@citadel.com. JobID: 7028759.

Quantitative Research Analyst

Chicago, IL

Apply by Email

CITADEL SECURITIES AMERICAS SERVICES LLC - Mult pos avail. Analyze & solve complex market probs through the use of tech, math and stat model'g, & comp systems. F/T. Reqs a Bach degree (or foreign equiv) in Stat, CS, Engin, Math, Physics, Ops Res, or a rel quant field. Edu, train, or exp must include the follow'g: conduct'g data-intensive investment-rel rsrch & analysis; adv math & stat model'g includ'g time-series analysis, cross-sectional analysis, Statistical Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, pattern recognition, or sim; & performing computations & rsrch with program'm'g languages includ'g Python, R, C++, Matlab, Julia, or similar. Resumes: citadelrecruitment@citadel.com. JobID: 7028775.

Quantitative Research Engineer

Chicago, IL

Apply by Email

CITADEL AMERICAS SERVICES LLC - Mult pos avail. Collab with rsrch teams to dsgn & implement quant tools & strategies for trad'g innovations across asset classes. F/T. Reqs a Bach degree (or foreign equiv) in CS, Stat, Engin, Math, Physics or a rel field. Edu, train'g or exp must include the follow'g: end-to-end sftware dvlpmnt; Distributed Comput'g, Machine Learn'g, Platform Dvlpmnt, Network'g or System Design; big data analytics; program'm'g with C, C++, C#, Java, Python, Perl, SQL or Kdb+/q; stat packages includ'g R, S-PLUS, Matlab, SAS, Pandas, NumPy, SciPy, Scikit-Learn, statsmodels, or sim; object-oriented program'm'g & work'g with data structures, algorithms & comp arch paradigms. Resumes: citadelrecruitment@citadel.com. JobID: 7028761.

SAP Functional Consultant (MM)

Naperville, IL

Apply by Mail or Email

(MYGO CONSULTING INC. HAS AN OPENING IN NAPERVILLE, IL) - SAP Functional Consultant (MM): Map requirements into SAP Processes and design the solutions. Will work in unanticipated locations. Mail resume to Mygo Consulting, Inc. 1700 Park St., Suite 207, Naperville, IL 60563 or email to hr@mygoconsulting.com.

Security & Access Controls Lead

Chicago, IL

Apply By Email

MARS, INCORPORATED - Security & Access Controls Lead - Chicago, IL. Establish internal controls for finance & IT processes according to industry leading practices for Central Finance program & development of global policy for access to financial data in CFM ecosystem. Job req's Bach's degree in Tech, Info Sys, or rel fld + 5 yrs of exp in audit or risk & control position in a CPG company. Up to 10% domestic & int'l travel req. Telework benefit permitted up to 3 days/wk. To apply, send resume identifying job code 121 to MarSta-PIC@effem.com. No calls.

Senior Architecture Analyst

Schaumburg, IL

Apply by Mail

OPTUM SERVICES, INC. - Design and develop solutions to complex applications problems, system administration issues, or network concerns. Mail resume to UHG GMI Recruitment at 9900 Bren Road East, MN008 R120, Minnetonka, MN 55343 and include applying for #22-IL-1929.

Site Reliability Engineer

Chicago, IL

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MANAGEMENT >>

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MANAGEMENT >>

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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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What wonderful memories of my time in Chicago so many years ago at Kresge store number 480. I still love to go back and remember what I can, and I would so love to hear from any of the other people that worked with me. I remember some names: Mary the personnel lady Josephine the office manager, Jean at checkout, young Geneva in the office, Bea the cook, Barbara in the basement. Hardware department, Assistant Barkside, and was the fountain manager Lillian?. This old mind can see so many faces from my time there but not enough names. About 100 people all told worked with me during those memorable two years. I would be so pleased if anyone who reads this can let me know what memory they have of that time! It would definitely make my day! Please if this stirs any memory of yours I would love to hear from you! Tony Seitz, 4631 Georgina Drive, Billings, Montana 59106. Email is seitzt44@gmail.com. (406) 850-5620

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CHICAGO SPORTS



The Bengals' Joe Burrow is the only quarterback to have beaten Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes three straight times. The two are set for a rematch in Sunday's AFC title game. EMILIE CHINN/AP

NFL PLAYOFFS

Clash of the titans

Bengals return to 'Burrowhead' to take on Chiefs

Associated Press

The Chiefs have lost three straight games to the Bengals, including last year's AFC title game, when they blew an early 21-3 lead in an overtime defeat before a sea of stunned fans inside Arrowhead Stadium.

Patrick Mahomes, who expects to lead the Chiefs against the Bengals on a sprained right ankle



CHAMPIONSHIP SUNDAY

NFC

49ers at Eagles

2 p.m., FOX-32



AFC

Bengals at Chiefs

5:30 p.m., CBS-2

in Sunday night's rematch, is likewise winless against Bengals counterpart Joe Burrow, the only quarterback to have beaten him three straight times.

In other words, there's a reason the AFC North champions are

imbued with a certain degree of confidence as they return to Kansas City, where the burgeoning rivals will once again determine who represents the AFC in the Super Bowl.

"Your preparation leads to confidence. That's just what you see from Joe and all of our players," explained the even-keeled Bengals coach Zac Taylor, who has somehow out-schemed, out-coached and gotten his team to out-execute Andy Reid and his Chiefs over the past 13 months. "So when they walk on the field on Sunday, they're relaxed."

In fact, the Bengals are so confi-

dent that some have taken to calling the Chiefs' home "Burrowhead Stadium."

Which, as you can imagine, doesn't sit well with the AFC West champs.

"I'm sure a lot of guys are aware of the comments they're making," Chiefs wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster admitted. "The Bengals have always been the rah-rah team, and they back it up. And they're doing so again in the postseason."

Yet it's not as if the Bengals, who roared past the Bills in the divi-

Turn to NFL, Page 5

BEARS

Former players still in running

While Super Bowl beckons others, Bears look to busy offseason

By Brad Biggs
Chicago Tribune

Championship Sunday ought to provide compelling football, with MVP favorite Patrick Mahomes going head-to-head against the Cincinnati Bengals' Joe Burrow in the AFC in Kansas City, Mo., and the Philadelphia Eagles playing host to the San Francisco 49ers in a battle of the top NFC seeds.

At the end of the day, the stage will be set for Super Bowl LVII on Feb. 12 in Glendale, Ariz., and the NFL will be one step closer to an offseason in which the Chicago Bears are positioned to make a flurry of headlines coming off a 3-14 season and the hiring of President/CEO Kevin Warren.

The Bears own the No. 1 pick in the draft, which will provide months of speculation about whether a trade-down deal is in the works for general manager Ryan Poles. They also possess the largest amount of salary-cap space available in free agency, which begins at 3 p.m. March 15.

Five former Bears on Sunday will be vying for a trip to the Super Bowl: Safety Deon Bush and full-back Michael Burton are on the Chiefs, defensive end Robert Quinn is with the Eagles and kicker Robbie Gould and safety Tashaun Gipson are on the 49ers. Gould is one win from playing in his third Super Bowl in his 18th season.

Here are six offseason storylines to follow.

1. Veteran quarterback movement will not involve the Bears directly. But it potentially will reduce the number of teams that could be interested in trading for the No. 1 pick, and it could have a profound effect on the future of the NFC North.

Less than 11 months after signing a three-year, \$150.815 million extension with the Green Bay Packers, Aaron Rodgers' future remains up in the air. Retirement seems highly unlikely — Rodgers would be walking away from more than \$59 million — but a trade has been reported as a possibility.

The Packers would almost

Turn to Bears, Page 2



Bears general manager Ryan Poles, left, and coach Matt Eberflus speak with the media during an end-of-season news conference on Jan. 10 in Lake Forest. STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Tackling topics as sports calendar nears a lull

While most look forward to the NFL conference championship games, chronic sufferers of PSBD — or post-Super Bowl disorder — dread the thought of only one game remaining after Sunday before the long, agonizing wait for the 2023 season.

Fortunately there are many other diversions to get you through your post-Super Bowl malaise, including the NBA, March Madness, spring training, sports debate shows and movies.

For those who have spent the last six months in an NFL cocoon, here are 10 questions and answers



Paul Sullivan
In the Wake of the News

to help catch you up on the great issues of the day.

1. Are the Bulls a lottery team? Even after the Bulls' 128-109 victory against the Magic on

Turn to Sullivan, Page 2



Sky forward Candace Parker warms up for the WNBA Commissioner's Cup championship against the Aces on July 26 at Wintrust Arena. JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

SKY

Parker to end run in Chicago, sign with Aces

By Julia Poe and Shakeia Taylor
Chicago Tribune

Candace Parker chose to leave the Sky for the same reason she joined the team in 2021 — to go home.

The Naperville native and two-time WNBA champion on Saturday announced her decision to sign with the Las Vegas Aces as a free agent. In an Instagram post, she cited her family as her primary decision for returning closer to the West Coast.

"My family is my reason and my purpose," Parker, 36, wrote. "They have given me the greatest joys I've ever experienced and continue to show me new levels of love and devotion I never knew existed. ... While Chicago will always be my home, my family's home is on the west coast."

Parker will sign a one-year contract with the Aces when free agents are cleared to sign beginning Wednesday, according to ESPN.

Turn to Parker, Page 5

Team	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
 BULLS			LAC 7 p.m. NBCSCH		CHA 7 p.m. NBCSCH
 BLACKHAWKS					Next game Feb. 7 vs. ANA

Sullivan

from Page 1

Saturday in Orlando, Fla., only six teams had a worse winning percentage than them. Like the White Sox in 2022, the Bulls have spent much of the season getting close to .500, only to go backward in spectacular fashion. They have no shot at falling low enough to have a realistic shot at consensus No. 1 pick Victor Wembanyama, but if they miss the playoffs they indeed will have some pingpong balls in the lottery.

2. Should Eloy Jiménez get his wish to play more right field than DH? This was a hot topic with White Sox fans for about a minute last week before the Mike Clevinger saga pushed it to the background. Jiménez told reporters: “I don’t really think that I’m going to accept (embracing the DH role) because I’m working hard to get better and I want to play in the outfield.”

It’s nice that Jiménez is working hard to become a better fielder, but if the Sox are better defensively with rookie Oscar Colás in right, there’s no real reason to play Jiménez more than once a week in the outfield.

3. What’s the over/under on the number of ‘What’s up, Einstein?’ commercials Sunday? Nothing makes an NFL fan miss the RedZone channel like the ubiquitous ad featuring Paul Giamatti as a befuddled Einstein trying to choose a wireless provider. Every stop in action during the NFL playoffs has seemingly brought another airing. No betting sites provided an over-under for Sunday’s championship games, but my bookie said 22, including pregame shows.

4. Does Northwestern have a realistic shot at an NCAA Tournament bid? Why not? The unranked Wildcats are 15-5 after Saturday’s 81-61 win over Minnesota and 6-3 in the Big Ten. No one believed in them after last season’s 7-13 finish in conference play. What has been the difference? “I think we really don’t care about all the stuff, what people say about us,” senior guard Chase Audige said after Monday’s win over Wisconsin. “Like, we’ve heard clearly everything in our years here, from being the worst of the worst, or when we’re playing well (being) the best of the best. We’re just trying to stay even-keeled. We know how confident we were in ourselves as a group, and we believe in us. And that’s all that really matters versus what everyone else has to say.” The Wildcats have proved they’re for real, but the schedule gets harder now.

5. Is there a worse premise for a sports movie than ‘80 for Brady’? Judging by the commercials, the upcoming release about four elderly women who are obsessive Tom Brady fans might rank as the worst sports movie

of all time. It has some tough company in “Fever Pitch,” “Bad News Bears Go to Japan” and “The Benchwarmers.” A more fitting title might be “Botox for Brady.”

6. Can the Cubs contend without a bona fide closer? Wait and see. Setup man Brad Boxberger may be the odds-on choice to start the season there, though he hasn’t been a regular closer since 2018 with the Arizona Diamondbacks. Keegan Thompson, Adbert Alzolay, Brandon Hughes and Rowan Wick are also possibilities. Team President Jed Hoyer might not be done adding relievers but said he feels “comfortable” with his late-inning options. “My goal, my hope is that over the next two to three years those guys are all coming out of our system,” he said. “That’s the real goal, to provide great stuff in the bullpen, and that’s also coming in (with) young guys with options that are less expensive. That’s certainly what we want to develop.”

7. Will Will Perdue make it through the Bulls season without imploding? The NBC Chicago Sports analyst can’t hide his disgust after Bulls losses and recently asked: “Who do they think they are?” Perdue speaks for fans everywhere when he questions the lack of leadership in the locker room. He’s the Bulls’ version of Ozzie Guillen.

8. Which 4 NBA players voted for Lonzo Ball to make the All-Star team? The Bulls guard hasn’t played in more than a year but received four All-Star votes on players ballots. Let’s assume one was from his brother LaMelo and the other three were from his Bulls teammates who believe the All-Star ballot is a joke.

9. Would an NBA writer have his credential taken away for getting into a televised beef with players during a game? No doubt about it. But when Fox Sports personality Shannon Sharpe, the former NFL star, got into a shouting match with Memphis Grizzlies players and Ja Morant’s father at a game against the Los Angeles Lakers, referees and stadium security had to step in. Sharpe later apologized after embarrassing himself and his outlet. Apparently there were no repercussions from the league or his bosses.

10. When LeBron James passes Kareem-Abdul Jabbar on the all-time scoring list, will he officially become the GOAT? It will seem that way by the reaction of James and his media friends. But the all-time leader in points per game will remain Michael Jordan at 30.12, followed by Wilt Chamberlain’s 30.07 PPG average. James ranked fifth on Saturday at 27.21. Jordan also will have six NBA titles to James’ four and six NBA Finals MVP awards to James’s four. James is a truly great player but played much longer than Jordan. It’s really a no-brainer.



Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers celebrates after throwing a touchdown pass against the Bears on Dec. 4 at Soldier Field. **CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Bears

from Page 1

certainly want to move Rodgers to an AFC team as they once did with Brett Favre. The New York Jets — the team that traded for Favre — have been heavily mentioned as a possibility. The prospect of Rodgers leaving the NFC North would have massive ramifications. The Bears have been waiting for decades for the Packers to experience what it’s like to be without a franchise quarterback. Rodgers has a 25-5 record, including postseason, in the rivalry in 18 seasons in Green Bay. Derek Carr of the Las Vegas Raiders is expected to land elsewhere, and two NFC playoff teams have quarterbacks coming out of contract — the New York Giants’ Daniel Jones and Seattle Seahawks’ Geno Smith. The Baltimore Ravens seem motivated to make things right with quarterback Lamar Jackson, the 2019 MVP, but there are more questions about their future together than there were before the season.

2. Free agency chatter begins at the Senior Bowl, which gets going Monday. Mix top executives from nearly all 32 teams with agents for high-profile players in Mobile, Ala., for a few days and exploratory conversations can be the impetus to deals being done six weeks later. It’s tampering but the kind of thing that happens every year when teams and agents can claim they are discussing anything but what lies ahead in free agency.

3. It would be surprising if the Bears were to use a franchise or transition tag on any players. The window for those designations runs from Feb. 21-March 7 and will be important to watch. Teams can prevent players who potentially would be attractive free agents from reaching the open market. Defensive linemen Daron Payne (Washington Commanders) and Dre’Mont Jones (Denver Broncos), offensive tackles Orlando Brown (Kansas City Chiefs) and Kaleb McGary (Atlanta Falcons) and running backs Josh Jacobs (Las Vegas Raiders) and Saquon Barkley (New York Giants) are non-quarterbacks to keep an eye on.

4. Chatter — some realistic and thought-provoking, some downright goofy — about the possibility of trading the No. 1 pick will almost surely drag on for more than two months. This isn’t the kind of deal that is likely to happen when Poles is on the clock April 27, but it’s difficult to imagine anything falling into place more than a month before the draft. The San Francisco 49ers traded up to No. 3 for a pick that turned into quarterback Trey Lance on March 26, 2021. In 2016, the top-two picks were traded: The Los Angeles Rams moved up from No. 15 to No. 1 to select Jared Goff on April 14 — two weeks before the draft. Six days later, the Eagles moved up from No. 8 to No. 2 to be in position to draft Carson Wentz.

If you are of the mind that Poles will not want to move down too far in Round 1 if he deals the pick, the Bears are going to hope teams picking in the top 10 do not land veteran quarterbacks. The Houston Texans (No. 2) and Indianapolis Colts (No. 4) are speculated to be in the market for a rookie passer.

The Bears have two motivating factors to consider trading down. Although they own the top pick, that is their only selection in the top 50 because the second-rounder they acquired from the Ravens in the Roquan Smith trade is No. 54. They own only three picks in the top 100, the third being No. 65 at the top of Round 3. As intriguing would be the chance to add a first-round pick in 2024, especially if it comes from a franchise that could struggle somewhat in the season ahead.

5. Recruiting is going to be a huge part of free agency because the Bears are hardly the only team with a boatload of cap space and a laundry list of needs. Money speaks loudest, but there will be intense competition for high-caliber players. That is where Poles’ pro department and the connection those people have with agents will be key. It’s where the coaching staff will have to sell the club’s vision. Plenty of elements are in play that go beyond waving around the McCaskey checkbook and buying players.

6. Buffalo Bills GM Brandon Beane made headlines Tuesday. At his end-of-season media

session, Beane said he doesn’t want the Bills to “suck bad enough to have to get a Ja’Marr Chase.” The comment, without context, generated headlines, but the point was Beane’s team is constructed differently with quarterback Josh Allen and wide receiver Stefon Diggs playing on high-end second contracts. The Bengals benefit from having quarterback Joe Burrow and Chase, their No. 1 receiver, on rookie contracts, giving them far more roster flexibility.

“(Chase) is a heck of a talent — I’d love to have him — but you’ve got to go through some lean years to do that,” Beane said. “And you know, they were able to get (Burrow) one, and I don’t remember where Chase was drafted but it was pretty high. ... (The Bengals) have a really good team, and they’ve got some good young players. We’re going to try to get as many good players as we can through the draft and through free agency, but again, our cap situation’s a little different by whoever’s under the book.”

Dallas Cowboys linebacker Micah Parsons piggybacked Beane’s comment on Chase and pointed out the Chiefs are the only team playing Sunday with a quarterback not on a rookie contract.

That created blowback for Parsons as some insinuated it to be a shot at Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott, who struggled in the divisional-round loss to the 49ers Sunday in San Francisco. That led Parsons to clarify he wasn’t relating the Cowboys’ cap structure with Prescott to what he said.

The Bears are in the midst of “lean years,” to borrow from Beane, and what they do this offseason will shape a path to greener pastures. Certainly having success with quarterback Justin Fields on his rookie deal — he will be entering Year 3 of a five-year contract — would be ideal. But let’s not pretend as if having an elite quarterback on a mega contract is a problem.

Any team without a franchise quarterback would gladly welcome Allen and ever penny of his contract, and no team would hesitate to pay Burrow what the Bengals will have to in order to lock him up for seasons to come.



Bulls guard Lonzo Ball sits on the bench during a game on Oct. 22 at the United Center. **JOHN J. KIM / CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

SPORTS



Illinois' Matthew Mayer shoots against Wisconsin's Steven Crowl during the first half Saturday in Madison, Wis. Mayer scored a career-high 26 points in the Illini's 61-51 victory. **ANDY MANIS/AP**

ILLINOIS 61, WISCONSIN 51

Go the extra Mayer

Forward's 26 points help Illini earn 6th win in last 7 games

Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. — Matthew Mayer scored 18 of his career-high 26 points in the second half and Illinois defeated Wisconsin 61-51 on Saturday. Mayer drained five 3-pointers

and shot 9 of 19 overall. Jayden Epps added 13 points for the Fighting Illini (15-6, 6-4 Big Ten), who have won six of seven. Chucky Hepburn scored 15 points and Max Klesmit returned from a two-game injury absence to score 12 for the Badgers (12-8, 4-6), losers of three straight and six of seven. Mayer scored 10 points in a 22-4 run that began midway through the second half, erasing Wisconsin's only lead in the half and

putting the Illini up by 17 with four minutes remaining. After the teams combined for the conference's lowest-scoring first half of the season — Illinois led 20-16 at the break — the Illini got off to a quick start in the second, with Mayer scoring eight of their first 12 points to take a 12-point lead. But Wisconsin responded with a 15-2 run, with Hepburn hitting a pair of 3-pointers plus a drive and basket that put the Badgers up by a point. The Illini opened 1-of-7 shooting

and Wisconsin 1 of 10 as the teams combined for just five points by the first media timeout. Illinois shot 33% and Wisconsin a dismal 18%, the teams combining to go 15-for-60 overall and 5 of 24 from 3-point range. Illinois, which beat Wisconsin at home 79-69 on Jan. 7, has won six straight in the series and three in a row in Madison. Illinois plays host to Nebraska on Tuesday. Wisconsin is at Ohio State on Thursday.

NORTHWESTERN 81, MINNESOTA 61

Rout moves Wildcats into tie for 2nd in Big Ten

Associated Press

Chase Audige scored 24 points and Boo Buie added 21, leading Northwestern to a 81-61 victory against Minnesota on Saturday in Evanston. The Wildcats' third straight was their 15th of the season, matching last season's total, and moved NU (15-5, 6-3) into a tie for second place in the Big Ten with Rutgers. Audige shot 9 of 14 with three 3-pointers. Buie went 9 of 20 and had eight assists. Robbie Beran added 14 points. Jason Battle scored 20 points and Ta'Lon Cooper had 12 to lead the Golden Gophers (7-13, 1-9), who have lost five straight. Minnesota was without leading scorer and rebounder Dawson Garcia for the second straight game. Garcia has a bone bruise in his right foot. Pharrel Payne returned from

concussion protocol and started after missing Wednesday's loss to Indiana. Northwestern led 45-28 at halftime after shooting 55%, outscoring the Gophers 14-3 off 11 Minnesota turnovers with Audige leading the way with 15 points. The Wildcats led by as many as 25 in the second half after an Audige 3-pointer with seven minutes remaining. They finished 31-for-60 (52%) shooting, made 9 of 20 3-point attempts and had just four turnovers to 15 for the Gophers. Minnesota had a four-point lead six minutes into the game before Northwestern outscored the Gophers 29-7 over the next nine minutes, including eight straight points from Audige. Northwestern plays at No. 1 Iowa on Tuesday. Minnesota is Ruat Rutgers on Wednesday.



Northwestern guard Chase Audige goes up for a dunk during the second half. Audige scored 24 points to lead Northwestern to an 81-61 victory against Minnesota on Saturday in Evanston. **ERIN HOOLEY/AP**

MARQUETTE 89, DEPAUL 69

Gibson's 25 points can't lift Demons

By Patrick Rose
Associated Press

David Joplin made eight 3-pointers and scored a career-high 28 points, helping No. 16 Marquette beat DePaul 89-69 on Saturday at a sold-out Wintrust Arena. Joplin went 8 for 11 from deep and had five rebounds in Marquette's third straight win. Tyler Kolek had 24 points, 10 assists and nine rebounds for the Golden Eagles (17-5, 9-2), who moved into a tie with No. 13 Xavier atop the Big East. Kolek was not surprised to see the scoring outburst from Joplin. "The last time we were in Chicago, we stayed at the same hotel we were at," Kolek said. "We played Missouri in a closed scrimmage before the season, I think he had 28, the same way. When he is locked in on the defensive end it all translates to offense and that's when he is at his best." Marquette pulled away in the second half. Oso Ighodaro's basket started an 11-0 run and Joplin followed with three consecutive 3s to extend the lead to 50-38 with 14:30 left. Ighodaro had 10 points on 5-for-5 shooting and added eight assists. Olivier-Maxence Prosper finished with 13 points and eight rebounds. Joplin said he was "really mad" that Kolek just missed a triple-double. "I was thinking if I stole anything from him," Joplin said. "I hope I didn't. He's just a great player." Umoja Gibson scored 25 points for DePaul (9-13, 3-8). Marquette leading scorer Kam Jones appeared to injure his right hip during the game. He was checked on by a team trainer and returned but was grimacing on the court. He played limited minutes and was held to seven points. Guard Sean Jones also missed the game with a right hand injury. But the Golden Eagles had plenty of scoring anyway. "That's just who we are — we have a lot of depth," Joplin said. "So when Kam went down we all looked at each other and said we have to pick it up. The scoring has to come from somewhere."

Marquette was 11 of 23 from 3-point range in the second half after going 4 for 13 in the first half. "I think what caused that (is) they were able to get downhill from us then they got us guarding off penetration, they were able to get some penetration and kick 3s, so that's what really hurt us on the closeout," DePaul coach Tony Stubblefield said.

Big picture

Marquette: It is unclear whether Jones will miss any time with his injury, but if the Golden Eagles get what they did from Joplin, Kolek and Ighodaro, they should stay in the hunt for a regular-season conference championship.

DePaul: After a bad loss at Georgetown earlier in the week and Saturday's blowout, the Blue Demons are near the bottom of the Big East.

Up next

Marquette: Plays Villanova on Wednesday.

DePaul: Plays Connecticut on Tuesday.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Sabalenka wins 1st Grand Slam title

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — One point away from her first Grand Slam title, Aryna Sabalenka faulted. And then she faulted again. She grimaced. She yelled and turned her back to the court. She wiggled her shoulders and exhaled. Clearly, this business of winning the Australian Open was not bound to happen without a bit of a struggle Saturday night. Sabalenka knew deep inside that would be the case. She also knew that all of the effort she put in, to overcome self-doubt and those dreaded double-faults, had to pay off eventually. Just had to. And so, as she wasted a second match point by flubbing a forehand, and a third by again missing

another, Sabalenka did her best to stay calm, something she used to find quite difficult. She hung in there until a fourth chance to close out Elena Rybakina presented itself — and this time, Sabalenka saw a forehand from her similarly powerful foe sail long. That was that. The championship belonged to Sabalenka via a 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 comeback victory over Wimbledon winner Rybakina. "The last game, yeah, of course, I was a little bit nervous. I (kept) telling myself, like, 'Nobody tells you that it's going to be easy.' You just have to work for it, work for it, 'til the last point," said Sabalenka, a 24-year-old from Belarus who is now 11-0 with two titles in 2023 and will rise to No. 2 in the WTA rankings on Monday.

"I'm super happy that I was able to handle all those emotions," she said, "and win this one." The only set she has dropped all season was the opener on Saturday against Rybakina, who eliminated No. 1 Iga Swiatek in the fourth round. It was telling that Sabalenka's remarks during the post-match ceremony were directed at her coach, Anton Dubrov, and her fitness trainer, Jason Stacy — she referred to them as "the craziest team on tour." "We've been through a lot of, I would say, downs last year," said Sabalenka, who was appearing in her first major final and had been 0-3 in Slam semifinals until this week. "We worked so hard and you guys deserve this trophy. It's more about you than it's about me."



Aryna Sabalenka reacts after a point against Elena Rybakina during the Australian Open final on Saturday in Melbourne. Sabalenka won the match 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 to capture her first Grand Slam title. **ANTHONY WALLACE/AFP**

SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Boston	35	15	.700	—
Philadelphia	32	16	.667	2
Brooklyn	30	19	.612	4½
New York	27	24	.529	8½
Toronto	22	28	.440	13
SOUTHEAST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Miami	28	25	.560	—
Atlanta	25	25	.500	3
Washington	22	26	.458	5
Orlando	19	31	.380	9
Charlotte	14	36	.280	14

CENTRAL				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Milwaukee	32	17	.653	—
Cleveland	30	21	.588	3
Indiana	24	27	.471	9
Chicago	23	26	.469	9
Detroit	13	38	.255	20

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Memphis	31	18	.633	—
New Orleans	26	23	.531	5
Dallas	26	24	.520	5½
San Antonio	14	35	.286	17
Houston	12	38	.240	19½
NORTHWEST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Denver	34	16	.680	—
Minnesota	26	25	.510	8½
Utah	25	26	.490	9½
Oklahoma City	24	25	.490	9½
Portland	23	25	.479	10

PACIFIC				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Sacramento	27	20	.574	—
L.A. Clippers	28	24	.538	1½
Golden State	25	24	.510	3
Phoenix	25	25	.500	3½
L.A. Lakers	23	26	.469	5

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
Philadelphia 126, Denver 119
Brooklyn 122, New York 115
Chicago 128, Orlando 109
Houston 117, Detroit 114
L.A. Clippers 120, Atlanta 113
Phoenix at San Antonio, late
Sacramento at Minnesota, late
Washington at New Orleans, late
L.A. Lakers at Boston, late
Dallas at Utah, late
Toronto at Portland, late

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Miami at Charlotte, noon
Indiana at Memphis, 5p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Cleveland, 6p.m.
New Orleans at Milwaukee, 7p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES
Orlando at Philadelphia, 6p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Brooklyn, 6:30p.m.
Golden State at Oklahoma City, 7p.m.
Sacramento at Minnesota, 7p.m.
Washington at San Antonio, 7p.m.
Detroit at Dallas, 7:30p.m.
Toronto at Phoenix, 8p.m.
Atlanta at Portland, 9p.m.

TUESDAY'S GAMES
Miami at Cleveland, 6p.m.
L.A. Lakers at New York, 6:30p.m.
Charlotte at Milwaukee, 7p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Chicago, 7p.m.
New Orleans at Denver, 9p.m.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Milwaukee 141, Indiana 131
Minnesota 111, Memphis 100
Oklahoma City 112, Cleveland 100
Miami 110, Orlando 105
Golden State 129, Toronto 117

NBA INDIVIDUAL LEADERS				
Through Friday				
SCORING AVERAGE				
	G	FG	FT	PTS
Embiid, PHI	35	388	353	1168
Doncic, DAL	45	500	362	1485
Antetokounmpo, MIL	38	415	329	1188
Tatum, BOS	47	477	355	1463
Giorgos-Alexander, OKC	45	466	414	1391
Lillard, POR	36	331	273	1084
James, LAL	39	450	186	1168
Durant, BKN	39	410	267	1158
Mitchell, CLE	41	399	206	1159
Moran, MEM	41	398	253	1118
Irving, BKN	37	370	145	1006
Young, ATL	44	376	345	1192
Brown, BOS	44	441	186	1177
DeRozan, CHI	45	424	317	1182
Jokic, DEN	45	424	216	1055
Siakam, TOR	40	355	242	1015
Markkanen, UTA	46	383	231	1139
Randle, NY	50	418	270	1242
Edwards, MIN	51	446	221	1252
Fox, SAC	44	394	190	1048
LaVine, CHI	44	365	183	1039
Brunson, NY	47	380	211	1055
Kuzma, WAS	47	398	125	1044
Porzingis, WAS	41	295	237	905
Garland, CLE	42	316	188	925
Butler, MIA	35	252	238	762
Simons, POR	46	354	126	1001
Green, HOU	48	351	220	1042
Adebayo, MIA	45	388	192	969
Johnson, SA	43	324	175	926
Rozier, CHA	40	322	107	859
Bogdanovic, DET	47	336	213	1001
Grant, POR	46	334	195	974
McCollum, UTA	44	349	104	933
Clarkson, UTA	50	380	158	1052
Poole, GS	49	350	201	1027
Murray, ATL	44	371	91	921
Thompson, GS	38	289	64	796
Banchero, ORL	42	280	254	871
Barrett, NY	44	310	187	889
Halliburton, IND	40	290	110	808
Herro, MIA	38	277	100	767
Oubre, CHA	35	263	100	706
Wagner, ORL	48	351	184	969
Holiday, MIL	38	280	95	743
VanVleet, TOR	41	257	155	791
Porter, HOU	40	269	141	767
Murray, DEN	41	287	119	782
Trent, TOR	43	278	130	799
Sabonis, SAC	45	309	192	838

3-POINT FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE				
	3FG	3FGA	PCT	
Lee, PHO	89	184	.484	
Kennard, LAC	55	118	.466	
Caldwell-Pope, DEN	96	207	.464	
Brogdon, BOS	82	183	.448	
Burks, DET	71	160	.444	
Joe, OKC	80	180	.444	
Curry, BKN	68	157	.433	
Powell, LAC	83	192	.432	
Markkanen, UTA	142	330	.430	
Hofford, BOS	80	187	.428	
Hield, IND	196	459	.427	
Murray, SAC	114	268	.425	
Grant, POR	111	262	.424	
Bane, MEM	85	201	.423	
Curry, GS	165	391	.422	
Huerter, SAC	127	304	.412	
McDermott, SA	79	189	.418	
Niang, PHI	102	244	.418	
Bogdanovic, DET	116	278	.417	
Williams, BOS	75	180	.417	
Olynyk, UTA	57	138	.413	
Williams, CHI	71	173	.410	
Paul, PHO	52	127	.409	
Drinviddie, DAL	127	312	.407	
Kispert, WAS	71	175	.406	
Porter, DEN	86	213	.404	
Vassell, SA	82	203	.404	

ODDS				
COLLEGE BASKETBALL				
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	SUNDAY	
Providence	1	at Villanova		
at Penn State	3½	Michigan		
at George Mason	7	St. Joseph's (PA)		
at Iowa	4½	Rutgers		

NBA				
FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG	
Miami	6	(off)	at Charlotte	
at Memphis	7½	(off)	Indiana	
at Cleveland	off	(off)	LA Clippers	
at Milwaukee	8½	(off)	New Orleans	

NFL				
FAVORITE	2W/2L	O/U	UNDERDOG	
at Philadelphia	2½	(46½)	San Francisco	
at Kansas City	1½	(48½)	Cincinnati	

NHL				
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	SUNDAY	
at Carolina	-132	Boston		
at Toronto	-146	Washington		

For the latest odds, go to
FanDuel Sportsbook,
https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/

HOCKEY

EASTERN CONFERENCE										
ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA			
Boston	49	38	6	5	81	186	105			
Toronto	50	30	12	8	68	168	135			
Tampa Bay	48	32	15	1	65	175	141			
Buffalo	48	26	19	3	55	183	162			
Florida	52	24	22	6	54	178	183			
Detroit	48	21	19	8	50	145	160			
Ottawa	49	23	23	3	49	146	155			
Montreal	50	20	26	4	44	130	184			

METRO.										
GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA				
Carolina	48	31	9	8	70	159	130			
New Jersey	49	32	13	4	68	171	131			
N.Y. Rangers	49	27	14	8	62	157	129			
Washington	51	26	19	6	58	161	144			
Pittsburgh	49	24	16	9	57	161	153			
N.Y. Islanders	51	24	22	5	53	146	143			
Philadelphia	51	21	21	9	51	142	162			
Columbus	49	15	31	3	33	127	191			

WESTERN CONFERENCE										
CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA			
Dallas	51	28	13	10	66	173	133			
Winnipeg	51	31	19	1	63	163	135			
Colorado	48	27	18	3	57	151	133			
Minnesota	47	26	17	4	56	148	137			
Nashville	48	24	18	6	54	137	141			
St. Louis	50	23	24	3	49	154	181			
Arizona	49	16	28	5	37	130	175			
Chicago	47	15	28	4	34	115	169			

PACIFIC										
GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA				
Los Angeles	52	28	18	6	62	169	178			
Seattle	48	28	15	6	61	174	150			
Vegas	50	29	18	3	61	159	146			
Edmonton	49	27	18	4	58	180	160			
Calgary	50	24	17	9	57	160	153			
Vancouver	49	20	26	3	43	166	196			
San Jose	51	25	25	11	41	157	196			
Anaheim	49	15	29	5	35	123	204			

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
Colorado 4, St. Louis 2
Florida 4, Boston 3 (OT)
Tampa Bay 5, Los Angeles 2
Ottawa 5, Montreal 0
Philadelphia 4, Winnipeg 0
San Jose 6, Pittsburgh 4
Vegas at N.Y. Islanders, late
Buffalo at Minnesota, late
Chicago at Edmonton, late
Columbus at Seattle, late
Arizona at Anaheim, late

SUNDAY'S GAMES
Boston at Carolina, 4p.m.
Washington at Toronto, 4p.m.

MONDAY'S GAME
St. Louis at Winnipeg, 7p.m.

TUESDAY'S GAMES
Los Angeles at Carolina, 6p.m.
Ottawa at Montreal, 6p.m.
Washington at Columbus, 6p.m.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
N.Y. Islanders 2, Detroit 0
N.Y. Rangers 4, Vegas 1
Carolina 5, San Jose 4, OT
Los Angeles 4, Florida 3
Ottawa 6, Toronto 2
New Jersey 3, Dallas 2, OT
Vancouver 5, Columbus 2
Calgary 5, Seattle 2

TENNIS

11TH AUSTRALIAN OPEN
Saturday at Melbourne Park,
Melbourne, Australia, hardcourt
outdoors
WOMEN'S SINGLES/CHAMPIONSHIP
#5Aryna Sabalenka d.
#22Elena Rybakina 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

HEAD-TO-HEAD: Sarabekna leads 4-0.
2023 Australian F: AS, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.
2021 Wimbledon R4: AS, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3.
2021 Abu Dhabi QF: AS, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3.
2019 Wuhan Open QF: AS, 6-3, 1-6, 6-1.

SUN: MEN'S SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP
#3Stefanos Tsitsipas vs.
#4Novak Djokovic

HEAD-TO-HEAD: Djokovic leads 10-3.
2022 NITTO F: ND, 6-2, 4-6, 7-6.
2022 Rolex SF: ND, 6-2, 3-6, 7-6.
2022 Astana F: ND, 6-3, 6-4.
2022 BNL D'Italia F: ND, 6-0, 7-6.
2021 French Open F: ND, 6-7, 2-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-4.

2021BNL D'Italia QF: ND, 4-6, 7-5, 7-5.
2020 French Open SF: ND, 6-3, 6-2, 5-7, 4-6, 6-1.
2020 Dubai F: ND, 6-3, 6-4.

2019 Mubdalla SF: ST, 3-6, 7-6, 6-4.
2019 BNP Paribas QF: ND, 6-1, 6-2.
2019 Shanghai Rolex QF: ST, 3-6, 7-5, 6-3.
2019 Mutua Madrid F: ND, 6-3, 6-4.
2018 Rogers Cup R3: ST, 6-3, 6-7, 6-3.

ROAD TO MEN'S FINALS
#3 STEFANOS TSITSIPAS
R1: Quentin Halys, 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (8-6)
R2: Rinky Hijikata, 6-3, 6-0, 6-2
R3: Tallon Griekspoor, 6-2, 7-6 (5), 6-3
R4: #15 Jannik Sinner, 6-4, 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 6-3
QF: Jiri Lehecka, 6-3, 7-6 (2), 6-4.
SF: vs. #18 Karen Kachanov, 7-6 (2), 6-4, 6-7 (6), 6-3.

#4 NOVAK DJOKOVIC
R1: Roberto Carballes Baena, 6-3, 6-4, 6-0
R2: Enzo Couacaud, 6-1, 6-7 (5), 6-2, 6-0
R3: #27 Grigor Dimitrov, 7-6 (9-7), 6-3, 6-4
R4: #22 Alex De Minaur, 6-2, 6-1, 6-2
QF: #5 Andre Rublev, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4.
SF: vs. Tommy Paul, 7-5, 6-1, 6-2.

SOCCER

ENGLISH

NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

SHORTS

Georgia: SUV was only for recruiting

Georgia athletic department officials say the vehicle involved in a crash that killed a football player and employee on Jan. 15 was to be used only for recruiting activities, not personal use. The University of Georgia athletic association provided that information in a statement Saturday, saying personal use of the SUV was “strictly prohibited.” Georgia offensive lineman Devin Willock and Chandler LeCroy, a 24-year-old who worked in the recruiting department and was driving the SUV, were killed in the early-morning accident that happened hours following a parade and celebration of the Bulldogs’ second consecutive national championship. Another player and another employee were in the vehicle and injured. Georgia athletic director Josh Brooks said Tuesday that no one in the car was on athletic department business. “The car driven in the accident was one of several vehicles leased by our athletic department for use during recruiting activities only,” the athletic association said in Saturday’s statement, which first reported Friday night by the Athens Banner-Herald and Atlanta Journal-Constitution. A police report released Tuesday listed excessive speed on a road with a 40 mph (64 kph) limit as one of the primary causes of the crash.

Shiffrin within 1 of World Cup record



Mikaela Shiffrin celebrated with a shoulder wiggle and a bright smile Saturday after dominating a slalom and moving within one victory of the 34-year-old World Cup record of 86 wins. The American showed no signs of pressure, a day before another slalom in which she could match the best mark set by Swedish great Ingemar Stenmark in the 1980s. “I don’t feel a lot of pressure to get this record. Now, I am so close that it’s like just take a breath and enjoy the moments we are in now,” Shiffrin said. She had shared the women’s record of 82 wins with former teammate Lindsey Vonn before triumphing at back-to-back giant slaloms in Italy this week and adding career win 85 on Saturday. “I’m always trying to think about everything else except these numbers, because they just make me nervous. And I don’t have a reason to be nervous if I achieve 86 or 87,” Shiffrin said. “But, for sure, if everybody asks, then I feel pressure to do it and then I don’t enjoy the races as much.” Shiffrin certainly enjoyed the race Saturday, which marked her third win within five days.

NWSL headed to Boston, Utah, Calif.

The National Women’s Soccer League is close to expanding by three teams, which will be in Boston, Utah and the San Francisco area, according to a report in the Wall Street Journal. The women’s pro league previously indicated it would add at least two teams by 2024. The Wall Street Journal reported the franchises in northern California and Utah are set to start play next year, with Boston to join at a later date. The NWSL did not confirm the report in a statement Saturday, saying: “We remain engaged in our expansion process and are excited about our prospects. When we have news to share, we will do so.” The NWSL has 12 teams, after Angel City in Los Angeles and the San Diego Wave joined the league last year. The Wall Street Journal also reported that the Boston and Bay Area groups will pay about \$50 million in franchise fees. The Utah team will pay a reduced fee because of a previous agreement struck when the Utah Royals folded in the 2020 season. Before the NWSL draft earlier this month, league commissioner Jessica Berman said it would be “somewhere between days and months, more like weeks, when we’ll be in a position to share information” about an expansion. —AP

NFL

from Page 1

sional round, have dominated the Chiefs, who took care of the Jaguars despite losing Mahomes for most of a quarter following his injury.

All three of their meetings have been decided by just three points each.

“We know what team we’re playing, a team that has been to this game the last five seasons, and they’ve all been in that stadium,” Burrow said. “So to me, they’re still the team to beat and we’re coming for them, but we know it’s going to be tough. We know it’s going to be hard-fought, and we know the kind of players they have on that side.”

Their matchup in last year’s title game was a classic. Mahomes threw three first-half touchdown passes, then Burrow led a dramatic comeback for the Bengals. And when the Chiefs’ Harrison Butker kicked a 41-yard field goal with no time left to send the game to overtime, the Bengals quickly picked off Mahomes to set up Evan McPherson’s winning kick.

“Listen, they probably should be confident. They’ve won three games,” said Reid, who is trying to guide the Chiefs back to the Super Bowl for the third time in four seasons. “That’s OK. We’re still going to play the game.”

Besides, the Chiefs have a quiet confidence about them, too.

“I would say they know us. We know them. And we’re all searching for that little extra that you can throw at them,” Reid said. “We’ve played each other enough that I’m sure both sides feel the same way.”

Eagles, 49ers ride QBs Hurts, Purdy to brink of Super Bowl: The late-game meltdowns stick with the 49ers.

Take the Super Bowl against the Chiefs following the 2019 season. The 49ers became the third team in Super Bowl history to cough up a 10-point lead in the second half and lost to the Chiefs. Or last season’s NFC title game, when a 17-7 lead unraveled because of a dropped interception, a conservative fourth-down call and an interception on the final drive. Winner, Rams.

Another blown opportunity at a championship that’s hard to forget.

“As you go back to last year, we were a couple of plays away from making it to the Super Bowl again,” wide receiver Deebo Samuel said. “What’s it really going to take for us to get there? We just have to minimize the mistakes and everybody has to be on their assignments.”

Near perfection.

That’s a pretty heady task for any team, much less one headed into Philadelphia, where the cold, an MVP finalist and the



Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts heads over to the practice field during a workout Thursday in Philadelphia. The Eagles are scheduled to play the San Francisco 49ers Sunday in the NFC championship game. **CHRIS SZAGOLA/AP**

top-seeded team in the NFC await. It’s going to get crazy loud — or is it crazy and loud? — at Lincoln Financial Field.

The 49ers say they’re ready. They have won 12 straight games, including seven in a row since rookie Brock Purdy, a seventh-round draft pick, took over at quarterback after Jimmy Garoppolo was injured.

The second-seeded 49ers have been on the brink of adding a sixth Super Bowl for years, and their appearance Sunday in the NFC championship game is their third in four seasons. The Eagles may not have been a preseason favorite to get here, but a series of bold moves — notably the acquisitions of wide receiver A.J. Brown, linebacker Haason Reddick, cornerback James Bradberry and safety C.J. Gardner-Johnson — have turned them into a team with a Super Bowl-or-bust outlook.

Want near perfection? The Eagles know something about that in Pro Bowl QB Jalen Hurts’ starts, with a 14-1 record in the regular season and last week’s playoff victory against the Giants. Hurts is playing through the lingering effects of a sprained right shoulder that cost him two games. He is putting in overtime ahead of his biggest test of the season against the 49ers’ No. 1-ranked defense.

“It’s in his DNA to be here at all times working on his craft,” Eagles coach Nick Sirianni said. “Whether that’s in the weight room, whether that’s in the training room, whether that’s in the film room, this guy is obsessed with getting better.”

Hurts had some doubters that he was the real-deal franchise QB headed into training camp. He wiped out any concerns pretty much after the opening-week win against the Lions and kept piling up big numbers and wins to the point where he was an NFL MVP finalist.

All that’s keeping Hurts from a Super Bowl, the Eagles’ second in six seasons, is the last pick of the draft.

Maybe it’s more than just Purdy’s play — he’s had a meteoric rise this season from “ Mr. Irrelevant ” to undefeated rookie QB in the NFC title game — that helps the 49ers. He has no memory of the Super Bowl collapse. He played no role in the debacle against the Rams.

Purdy just knows how to win.

“He has a natural ability to play the position and that’s why he’s fun to coach because when he does make mistakes and do things, he can see it, he can know why, we can see it and we can all understand it,” 49ers coach Kyle Shanahan said.

NFL PLAYOFFS

Vegas says some classics are coming

By David Brandt

Associated Press

If Vegas oddsmakers are correct — and there’s a reason those casinos are huge and luxurious — then football fans are in for a treat this weekend.

The NFL’s conference championship weekend is here: The Eagles will host the 49ers for the NFC title while the Chiefs host the Bengals in the AFC. Both games are Sunday.

The gambling odds are tight for both games, though both home teams have a slight edge.

The Eagles are a 2 ½-point favorite while the Chiefs are favored by 1 ½ points, according to odds from FanDuel Sportsbook. The winners will meet in the Super Bowl on Feb. 12 in Glendale, Arizona.

All four teams have legitimate reasons for confidence Sunday:

■ Let’s start with the Chiefs. The Chiefs have arguably the top quarterback in the sport with Patrick Mahomes under center. He’s battling a high ankle sprain that he suffered during last week’s win against the Jaguars, but the All-Pro selection went through a full week of practice to prepare for the Bengals.

“You can’t fully do exactly what you’re going to be doing in those moments in the game (in practice), but all I can do is prepare myself the best way possible and then when we get in the game, you hope adrenaline kind of takes over,” Mahomes said this week.

Mahomes gets a lot of the publicity, but he also has help. Tight end Travis Kelce is among the game’s elite while defensive tackle Chris Jones had 15 ½ sacks this season.

■ Now we move to the Bengals, who are coming to Kansas City with loads of hard-earned confidence.

The two teams are playing for the fourth time in under 400 days and the Bengals won the previous three meetings — all by three points.

Quarterback Joe Burrow has been at his best against Mahomes, including his comeback win in last year’s AFC title game. He’s coming off a season in which he set Bengals records for completions (414), pass attempts (606) and touchdown passes (35).

The Bengals haven’t lost since Halloween, winning 10 straight.

■ Over in the NFC, the Eagles and quarterback Jalen Hurts have had a dream season.

Hurts is having a breakout, MVP-caliber year and its hard to top the pass-catching duo of A.J. Brown and DeVonta Smith, who both easily topped 1,000 yards receiving. Linebacker Haason Reddick leads the defense with 16 sacks.

Also, the game is in Philadelphia. That’s a place where fans can get a little — what’s the polite word — enthusiastic?

Hurts is battling a sore throwing shoulder, but it didn’t seem to be a problem in last week’s dominant win against the Giants.

“I’ve felt better, but it doesn’t really matter,” Hurts said. “I’ve got to get it done.”

■ And finally, the 49ers. They have won 12 straight games, including seven in a row since rookie Brock Purdy, a seventh-round draft pick, took over at quarterback after Jimmy Garoppolo was injured.

Purdy is set for perhaps his toughest test yet Sunday, when he faces an Eagles defense that led the NFL with 70 sacks and must deal with an imposing road environment.

But Purdy isn’t easily rattled and the 49ers have a loaded roster that includes running back Christian McCaffrey and defensive end Nick Bosa.

AP Pro Football Writers Josh Dubow and Rob Maaddi and AP Sports Writers Dave Skretta, Dan Gelston and Mitch Stacy contributed to this report.

Parker

from Page 1

When Parker came home to Chicago in 2021 after spending the first 13 seasons of her career with the Los Angeles Sparks, she unlocked the final piece of a championship-seeking puzzle alongside stars Courtney Vandersloot, Allie Quigley and Kahleah Copper. After leading an unlikely 16-16 team to a WNBA title in 2021, Parker returned to cement a franchise-record 26-win season in 2022.

Parker wowed her hometown crowd, earning back-to-back All-Star appearances in her two seasons with the Sky. She is a seven-time All-Star and two-time WNBA MVP.

“When I made the decision to go to Chicago in 2021, I made the decision to go home and be with my family in the place where it all began,” Parker wrote. “I am beyond grateful for the opportunity to win a championship in my hometown and parade down the same streets I watched the Bulls parade down as a young girl first falling in love with the game of basketball.”

Although Parker achieved her ultimate goal in Chicago, her homecoming also came with sacrifice. Her 13-year-old daughter, Lailaa, and 1-year-old son, Airr, live with her wife, former Russian player Anna Petrakova, full time in Los Angeles. Lailaa will start high school in California this fall, a turning point that Parker said she couldn’t allow herself to miss.

Parker cited the distance — and a refusal to miss her daughter’s volleyball games, school dances and other irreplaceable moments — as the catalyst for her decision to sign with the Aces.

Parker will join an Aces team facing scru-

tiny after the team was put under investigation by the WNBA Players Association following accusations of discrimination by former forward Dearica Hamby.

After being traded to the Sparks last week, Hamby posted on Instagram that she accused members of the Aces front office and coaching staff of bullying, intimidation and discrimination following her second pregnancy.

“Being traded is a part of the business,” Hamby wrote. “Being lied to, bullied, manipulated, and discriminated against is not. I have had my character and work ethic attacked. ... The unprofessional and unethical way that I have been treated has been traumatizing. To be treated this way by an organization, BY WOMEN who are mothers, who have claimed to ‘be in these shoes,’ who preach family, chemistry, and women’s empowerment is disappointing and leaves me sick to my stomach.

“We fought for provisions that would finally support and protect player parents. This cannot now be used against me.”

According to a Chicago Sun-Times report , Parker’s meeting with the Aces took place the day after Hamby’s post.

While details of the deal are unknow, the maximum contract Parker could sign with the Aces would be just more than \$183,000. The Aces would need to trade a bench player to free additional salary-cap space. Parker’s income through her WNBA salary is supplemented by sponsorship arrangements with Adidas and her broadcasting role with TNT, which might have been a factor in accepting the reduced salary.

The Sky, meanwhile, now face a challenging free-agency period that could decimate a roster coming off the winningest season in franchise history. As a free agent, long-

time captain Courtney Vandersloot has been tied to both the Seattle Storm and New York Liberty. Her wife and co-captain, Allie Quigley, has been rumored to be mulling retirement since she elected not to play abroad during the WNBA offseason for the first time in her career.

Center Emma Meesseman and backup guard Julie Allemand are also uncertain to re-sign with the Sky while Azurá Stevens continues to garner interest throughout the league as a versatile stretch big. The loss of Parker leaves a gaping hole in the frontcourt, making the Sky’s negotiations with Stevens a priority.

“Candace has done so much for our franchise in her time here,” Sky coach/general manager James Wade said in a statement. “I understand her reasons for wanting to be closer with her immediate family. We wish her nothing but the best. She will always be a part of the Sky family. We will celebrate her time here as she deserves.”

For Chicago, Parker’s two years symbolized the realization of a decadeslong battle for a foothold in the WNBA.

The team fielded generational players — Vandersloot, Quigley, Copper, Elena Delle Donne, Sylvia Fowles — and flirted with playoff runs. But before Parker’s arrival, the Sky never fulfilled their potential.

To achieve the milestones the last two seasons with one of Chicago’s own only added to the poignancy of Parker’s run here.

“I’m forever appreciative of everyone in Chicago — our fans, teammates, coaches, and ownership,” Parker wrote. “But more than the past two seasons, I’m thankful to the city that raised me, the childhood friends I still have to this day, the teachers I still am learning from, and the moments in time that will forever be in my heart.”



NFL PLAYOFFS CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND PREVIEW



49ERS (15-4) at EAGLES (15-3)

2 p.m. Sunday, FOX

Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia

Line: Eagles by 2½
Series record: 49ers lead 19-14-1

BROCK PURDY
2022 regular season stats
● TD ● Interception

●●●●●●●● 13

●●●●●●● 4

Games: 9

Yards: 1,374

Comp.: 114

Att.: 170

Pct.: 67.1

Rushes: 22

Yards: 13

TD: 1

NFL ranks

Eagles offense: Overall (3), rush (5), pass (9), scoring (3)
Eagles defense: Overall (2), rush (t-16), pass (1), scoring (8)
49ers offense: Overall (5), rush (8), pass (13), scoring (6)
49ers defense: Overall (1), rush (2), pass (20), scoring (1)
Turnover differential: 49ers plus-13; Eagles plus-8

Players to watch

Eagles: QB Jalen Hurts left no doubt that he was back to good health and good form in Philadelphia's dominating win over the Giants on Jan. 21 in which Hurts threw for 154 yards and two touchdowns and rushed nine times for 34 yards and a score. Hurts had returned from a two-game absence because of a shoulder injury in the regular-season finale on Jan. 8 and helped the Eagles clinch the NFC's No. 1 seed with a less-than-stellar 22-16 win over the Giants. But he looked last week more like the player who threw for 22 touchdowns, rushed for 13 and combined for 4,461 yards through the air and on the ground while giving defenses fits with his dual-threat ability.
49ers: QB Brock Purdy has emerged as one of the NFL's unlikely success stories. The rookie seventh-round pick was given the moniker "Mr. Irrelevant" after being the last player picked in the draft. But he has been anything but for the 49ers, stepping in for injured starter Jimmy Garoppolo (broken foot) and winning seven straight starts, including playoff victories over Seattle and Dallas. He has thrown for 546 yards and three touchdowns with no interceptions in the postseason. But Purdy is facing a tall order playing in the NFC title game in Philadelphia. For one thing, it's just the third road game of his career, and surely will be the most intense atmosphere he's faced. Secondly, he will have to overcome the history of rookie quarterbacks in this situation. All four previous rookie quarterbacks to reach the conference title game, Shaun King (1999), Ben Roethlisberger (2004), Joe Flacco (2008) and Mark Sanchez (2009), lost.



Eagles offensive tackle Jordan Mailata. TCN

Key matchup

Eagles LT Jordan Mailata vs. 49ers DE Nick Bosa: Mailata is part of a talented Philadelphia offensive line that had three players, RT Lane Johnson, C Jason Kelce and LG Landon Dickerson, make the Pro Bowl. Mailata was selected as an alternate for the Pro Bowl, and the 6-foot-8, 365-pound Australian native and former rugby player will get the biggest test of his career against Bosa, who led the NFL with 18½ sacks and is a finalist for Defensive Player of the Year.

Key injuries

Eagles CB Avonte Maddox (toe) returned to practice this week. He has not played since getting injured on Dec. 24 against Dallas. Johnson, who is playing with a torn abductor, also was limited in practice this week. WR A.J. Brown was held to just three catches for 22 yards against the Giants and appeared frustrated in the second half. Coach Nick Sirianni confirmed on Monday that Brown was dealing with an undisclosed injury, but he was not listed on the injury report this week, indicating that he will be healthy and ready on Sunday. For the 49ers, WR Deebo Samuel (ankle) and backup RB Elijah Mitchell (groin) did not practice on Wednesday. Backup CB Ambry Thomas (ankle) and backup DE Charles Omenihu (oblique) were limited in practice. All four players are likely to play on Sunday, coach Kyle Shanahan said. Omenihu will play if healthy in spite of being arrested on Monday after a domestic violence allegation. Shanahan said the organization will let the legal process play out. Shanahan does not expect to have Garoppolo available.

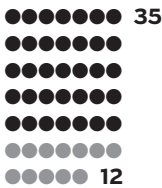
Stats & stuff

The Eagles have a league-high eight Pro Bowl selections. The 49ers have six. ... The 49ers defense limited opponents to a league-best 300.6 yards during the regular season and held the Cowboys to 282 yards last week. Defensive coordinator DeMeco Ryans, a former linebacker who played for the Eagles for four of his 10 seasons, is a top head coaching candidate. Ryans already has interviewed for head coaching openings in Houston and Denver and is drawing interest from the Colts, Cardinals and Panthers. ... The 49ers are playing in their second straight NFC title game and third in four years. They last played in the Super Bowl on Feb. 2, 2020, losing 31-20 to the Chiefs. ... San Francisco K Robbie Gould has made all 29 career field-goal attempts in the postseason, including 4-for-4 against Dallas last week. ... Hurts and Purdy met once previously, though it was in college. On Nov. 9, 2019, Hurts led Oklahoma to a 42-41 over Purdy and Iowa State.
— Associated Press



AP

JOE BURROW
2022 regular season stats
● TD ● Interception



Games: 16
Yards: 4,475
Comp.: 414
Att.: 606
Pct.: 68.3
Rushes: 75
Yards: 257
TD: 5



AP



BENGALS (14-4) at CHIEFS (15-3)

5:30 p.m. Sunday, CBS

GEHA Field at Arrowhead Stadium, Kansas City

Line: Chiefs by 1
Series record: Bengals lead 18-14

NFL ranks

Bengals offense: Overall (8), rush (27), pass (5), scoring (7)
Bengals defense: Overall (16), rush (7), pass (23), scoring (6)
Chiefs offense: Overall (1), rush (20), pass (1), scoring (1)
Chiefs defense: Overall (11), rush (8), pass (18), scoring (16)
Turnover differential: Bengals plus-6; Chiefs minus-3

Players to watch

Bengals: QB Joe Burrow is 3-0 against Chiefs counterpart Patrick Mahomes, including his comeback win in last year's AFC title game. He's coming off a season in which he set Bengals records for completions (414), pass attempts (606) and touchdown passes (35). He threw for 250 yards with two touchdowns and a pick in last year's AFC championship game.
Chiefs: All eyes are on Mahomes, and more specifically his right ankle, which was sprained in last weekend's divisional win over Jacksonville. Mahomes had X-rays during the game but returned to lead Kansas City to the eventual clinching touchdown in the fourth quarter. He had an MRI exam the following day that confirmed a high ankle sprain, but Mahomes and Chiefs coach Andy Reid insisted all week that he would play against the Bengals. The All-Pro quarterback has had perhaps his best season, throwing for a career-high 5,250 yards with 41 touchdown passes.

Key matchup

The Bengals' fleet of wide receivers, led by Ja'Marr Chase, against the Kansas City defensive backfield, which regularly plays three rookie cornerbacks and a rookie safety. Chase had seven catches for 97 yards in the Bengals' 27-24 win in December, while Tyler Boyd had four catches for 60 yards and Tee Higgins had three for 35 yards and a score.

Key injuries

Bengals OG Alex Cappa (ankle) and OT Jonah Williams (knee) missed practice this week while CB Tre Flowers (hamstring) and LB Joe Bachie (foot) were limited. Chiefs WR Mecole Hardman (pelvis) also was limited.

Stats & stuff

This is the record fifth straight conference championship game hosted by Kansas City. The five consecutive appearances by the

Chiefs are tied with Oakland (1973-77) and behind only the Patriots (2011-18) for the most in NFL history. ... The Bengals are making their fourth AFC championship appearance. ... Bengals RB Joe Mixon needs 43 yards rushing to pass Pete Johnson (5,421) for fourth in franchise history. ... Chase set the Bengals single-game record for yards receiving with 266 against Kansas City in a win on Jan. 2, 2022. ... Bengals K Evan McPherson was 4 for 4 on field goals and hit his only PAT try in last year's AFC title game. ... Cincinnati ran for 172 yards in last week's divisional win over Buffalo, the fourth-best postseason total in franchise history. ... Chiefs coach Andy Reid is tied with Tom Landry with 20 postseason wins. The only coach with more is the Patriots' Bill Belichick (31). ... TE Travis Kelce and LS James Winchester set the Chiefs record last week with their 16th career playoff games. ... Kelce had 14 catches last week against Jacksonville, setting a Chiefs playoff record. The total was one off the NFL postseason record shared by the Saints' Darren Sproles and the Patriots' James White. ... Kelce has 1,389 yards receiving in the playoffs, tied with the retired Rob Gronkowski for third in NFL history. Kelce needs 53 yards to pass Julian Edelman for second behind Jerry Rice. ... Mahomes is 9-3 in the playoffs as an NFL starter. ... Mahomes needs three TD passes to pass Dan Marino (32) for eighth on the league's career postseason list. ... Mahomes and Chiefs backup Chad Henne will become two of five QBs to be active for five consecutive conference championship games. Tom Brady, Ken Stabler and Daryle Lamonica are the others. ... Chiefs DE Frank Clark has 12 playoff sacks, tied with Reggie White for No. 4 on the career list since they became an official stat in 1982.
— Associated Press



Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce. AP

RIDES



Above are Edmunds' picks for top rated car, SUV, truck and an electric version for each category. REX TOKESHI-TORRES/EDMUNDS

TOP OF THEIR CLASS

Edmunds names winners of Top Rated Awards for best new vehicles on the road

By Ronald Montoya
Edmunds

Every year Edmunds' experts put their heads together to determine the best new vehicles on sale. Spread across six categories, the annual Edmunds Top Rated Awards are given to the cars, trucks and SUVs that rank at the top of their class according to Edmunds' vehicle testing program. That means each winner has been tested at the Edmunds test track and thoroughly evaluated over many miles of real-world use. Edmunds came up with six winners for best car, SUV, truck and the electric versions of each. Some vehicles are repeat winners while others are new champions. We've listed the vehicles below, sorted by vehicle type. All prices include destination charges.

TOP RATED CAR: 2023 HONDA CIVIC

Starting manufacturer's suggested retail price: \$26,145
Edmunds says: The Honda Civic has won Edmunds Top Rated twice in a row for two good reasons. First, there's the optional turbocharged engine. It gives you more power and better fuel efficiency than the base model. The other is that it provides an ideal combination of practicality, easy-to-use tech interface and engaging driving characteristics.
Counterpoint: Road noise is noticeable at highway speeds and the driver assist features give a few too many false alarms.
TOP RATED ELECTRIC CAR: 2023 CHEVROLET BOLT EV
Starting MSRP: \$27,495
Edmunds says: Price has long been a barrier for people looking to get an electric vehicle, but that

barrier is pretty low with the Chevrolet Bolt. The Bolt received a significant price reduction last year and can be even less expensive for buyers who qualify for the Bolt's available federal \$7,500 tax credit. The Bolt is a small car but there is plenty of usable space inside for most people. It's also fun to drive and convenient and maneuverable to park.
Counterpoint: The Bolt's cargo area is smaller when compared with its competition. Also, the Bolt's DC fast-charging speed is slower than its competitors.

TOP RATED TRUCK: 2023 FORD F-150

Starting MSRP: \$35,590
Edmunds says: Modern trucks need to be like Swiss Army knives for many Americans. For some, they're the lifeblood of their business. For others, they're off-road adventure machines for weekend warriors. And for still others, they're the new American family car. The Ford F-150 is another repeat winner in its category, as there is an F-150 for every wallet and purpose. It can even be equipped with innovative features you won't find on any other truck on the market.
Counterpoint: The F-150's interior storage compartments could be roomier or more versatile. Also, the hybrid model's fuel economy fell short of its EPA estimate in Edmunds' testing.

TOP RATED ELECTRIC TRUCK: 2023 FORD F-150 LIGHTNING

Starting MSRP: \$58,369
Edmunds says: It was a field of two in the new category of electric pickup truck this year: the Rivian R1T and the Ford F-150 Lightning. For most Americans, the F-150 Lightning is going to be a better experience overall. It has plenty of range and power for an EV without being over the top or quirky. Nearly all of the regular F-150's qualities are present here as well. Think of it as a regular F-150 that just happens to be electric.

Counterpoint: Maximum range is capped at 230 miles without the pricey extended-range battery. Also, pricing for the Lightning's upper trim levels is pretty high.

TOP RATED SUV: 2023 KIA SPORTAGE HYBRID

Starting MSRP: \$28,815
Edmunds says: The Kia Sportage Hybrid dethroned the three-peat champ, Kia Telluride. People will take notice when you're in a Kia Sportage Hybrid because it looks like nothing else on the road. The Sportage is one of the least expensive ways to get a hybrid in a compact SUV, and it doesn't feel like you've compromised on modern features. It offers more power than the gas model, plus better fuel economy.
Counterpoint: You're limited to the base trim if you want front-wheel drive instead of the more expensive all-wheel drive. Also, the Sportage's handling isn't particularly engaging.

TOP RATED ELECTRIC SUV: 2023 HYUNDAI IONIQ 5

Starting MSRP: \$42,745
Edmunds says: The Hyundai Ioniq 5 is the best example of how an EV should serve its buyer. It has respectable range on a full charge, a high-tech interior, fast charging speed and unique style. The Ioniq 5 is also comfortable and surprisingly fun to drive. It isn't a flashy exotic electric, but it does have an X-factor that other automakers may struggle to replicate anytime soon.
Counterpoint: Poor rear visibility can be an issue, and the front trunk and rear cargo area are smaller than in some competitors.

Edmunds says
Save time on researching your next vehicle purchase by checking out the Edmunds Top Rated award winners for 2023. Head over to Edmunds.com to see the full list of winners and then go test-drive them for yourself and see if you agree with our picks.

EVs look poised for slower sales growth this year

By Colin McKerracher
Bloomberg News

Every year, Bloomberg-NEF's team of analysts pauses to reflect on what's happened in our industry and make some predictions on what might be in store next. Each year presents its own challenges, and 2023 is no exception, with economic uncertainty riding high, geopolitical tensions rising and the policy landscape shifting. Here are three things we're expecting for the EV market this year:
■ We expect EV adoption to continue to rise in 2023, but at a slightly slower pace than the past two years, which saw sales jump from 3.2 million in 2020 to more than

10 million in 2022. We expect 13.6 million plug-in passenger vehicle sales in total for this year, with around 75% of those being fully electric. The U.S. is poised for a breakout year due to the combination of new EV manufacturing capacity and refreshed federal tax credits.
■ Sales of zero-emission vans and trucks will continue to rise quickly and should hit almost 600,00 globally in 2023, up over 80% from 2022. Since 2020, sales have jumped almost fourfold against the backdrop of a largely stagnant market for commercial vehicles. Commercial vehicles are used much more intensively than passenger cars, so electrifying them can lead to large reductions

in both emissions and oil demand. The U.S. could turn into a surprise market for zero-emission vans and trucks. After very low sales in previous years, there are signs of change.
■ Annual public charging installations more than doubled to just shy of 1 million in 2022, from 450,000 a year earlier. BNEF expects annual installations to reach 1.3 million in 2023, and for the cumulative network to reach 4.1 million. The fate of global growth depends heavily on Chinese industry, which has been installing a huge number of chargers. Europe and North America are much further behind but will also post record years for public installations.



Sales of zero-emission vans and trucks, such as the BrightDrop Zevo, will continue to rise quickly. BRIGHTDROP



Youths pass by a Mold-A-Rama machine at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS



The Mold-A-Rama exhibit features small plastic statues of a green Rosa Parks Bus, President John F. Kennedy, bowling pins and others.

MOLD-A-RAMA

MSI exhibit celebrates legacy of colorful molded statues

By Christopher Borrelli | Chicago Tribune

The world headquarters of Mold-A-Rama Inc. is tucked inside a colorless strip of businesses in Brookfield, the kind of block so forlorn it's hard to tell if anything is open or closed. There's a small mailbox noting that Mold-A-Rama is inside, but nothing like a typical storefront sign. On a January morning, the scene is so winter *beige*, to even call this location a strip mall seems extravagant. Fans of Mold-A-Rama, collectors of its 60 years of colorful molded statues, show up occasionally, unannounced. "They assume they'll find hundreds of employees, but nope," said Sue Jones, wife of co-owner Paul Jones. He was out at the Museum of Science and Industry, servicing their Mold-A-Rama machines, making certain visitors receive tiny plastic chicks, submarines, steam trains.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day was the day before and Chicago museums were slammed, which meant Paul's durable, decades-old Mold-A-Rama machines at MSI and the Field Museum were slammed. Some of the very *same machines* that pushed out 3-inch Lincoln busts during the Nixon administration are still operating, seven days a week. Few things are as they were in 1971, when the Jones family took over the world of Mold-A-Rama museum and zoo souvenirs, but the Mold-A-Rama experience remains the same. At the MSI, for instance, which just opened a yearlong exhibit on the history of Mold-A-Rama, you still approach a chunky, jukebox-size machine that once looked space-age. The top is a glass bubble, beneath

which sits an array of metal gauges — water temperature, tank pressure — and two black blocks at the end of hydraulic pistons. The whole contraption — minus its "MOLD-A-RAMA" banner — suggests a mad scientist's laboratory. Decades ago it ate quarters; now you swipe a credit card, which takes \$5. But the rest is the same: The machine rumbles to life, those two blocks push together and the machine rumbles more. A moment later, the blocks separate and a molded plastic souvenir tumbles out. Lift the small metal door, fish out your prize and — *That smell!* Ah, the sweet waft of low-density polyethylene baked at a cozy 250 degrees. If I came home

and smelled this smell, I would assume there was an electrical fire, but here, with the result being a small HMS Bounty statue, it smells just like a fourth grade field trip. "Because," Sue said, "smell is memory." And wisely, it's a memory the Jones family has not updated much. In fact, though the Mold-A-Rama process now looks like a precursor to 21st century 3D printing (and sometimes employs 3D printing during the development of new statues), the MSI exhibit presents it as essentially vintage, stone-age technology, providing "a peek into mass production." Specifically, injection molding, which

Turn to Mold-A-Rama, Page 7

'This is what comes of making a movie on the cheap'

Actor Michael Shannon says the 'Rust' fiasco is about more than gun safety



Michael Phillips
On Further Review

In 2021, when "Rust" star and producer Alec Baldwin accidentally shot and killed cinematographer Halyna Hutchins with a pistol containing live ammunition that should not have been on a movie set, a lot of actors nowhere near that incident in New Mexico thought a lot of things. For Michael Shannon, "the main thing was: This is what comes of making a movie on the cheap."

A Chicago stage veteran and

two-time Academy Award nominee for supporting performances in "Revolutionary Road" (2008) and "Nocturnal Animals" (2016), Shannon, the co-star of Showtime's "George & Tammy" and the recent, bullet-strewn theatrical feature "Bullet Train," has played his share of gun-wielding hit men, lawmen and underworld adversaries in a prolific 31-year career in film and television. He has worked around massive, deafening explosions coupled with hazard-prone strafing from the air ("Pearl Harbor," one of two Michael Bay projects he's in). He has followed gun safety protocols on low-budget, medium-sized and nine-figure film projects. "Fastidious" is his word

Turn to Phillips, Page 3



Actor Michael Shannon, shown in Chicago in 2017, has dealt with a variety of firearm safety protocols in his filmmaking career. After the "Rust" tragedy, he says the days of live weapons on movie sets are over. NANCY STONE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

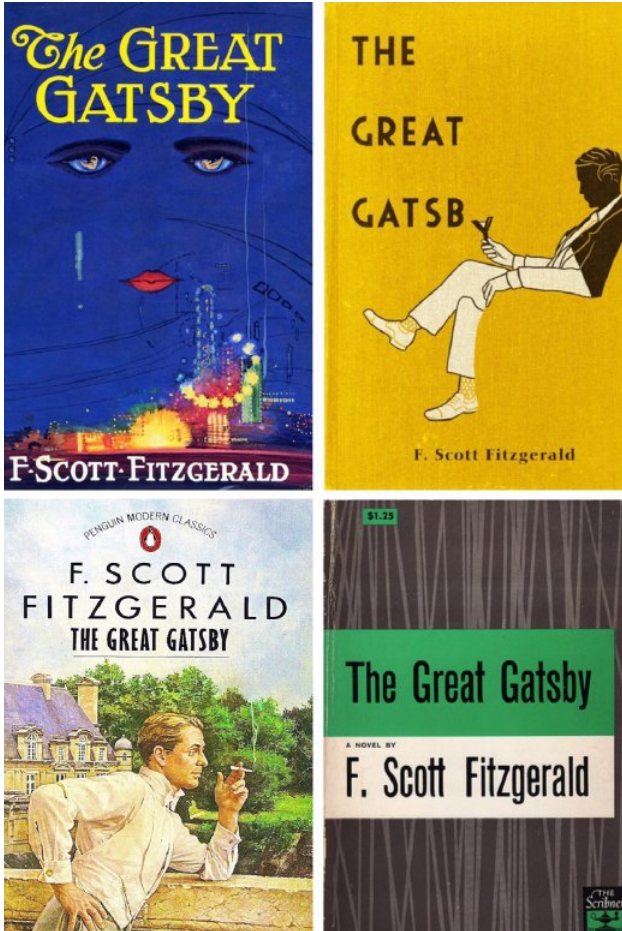
What is the Great American Novel?

Here's a local writer's pitch for 'Gatsby'



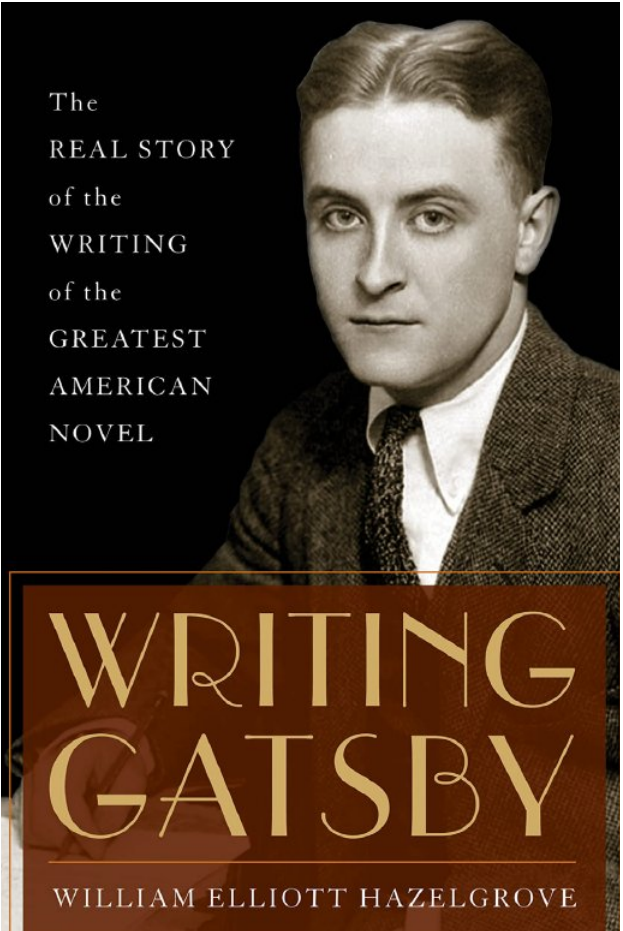
Rick Kogan

Read any good books lately?
Any great books?
Any books that you might consider for the title Great American Novel?
It's a frequent game in the book world, this Great American Novel contest. I have never been one to participate. Writing books is hard enough, and most writers are more focused on selling books than aspiring to an endlessly debatable title. There have been many Great American Novel lists over the years, and they are as varied in their rankings as are the current Chicago mayoral polls.
But in grabbing and starting to read William Hazelgrove's latest book, "Writing Gatsby: The Real Story of the Writing of the Greatest American Novel" (Lyons Press), I decided to find out who started this competition.
John William DeForest was his name and he coined the term in an essay he wrote in The Nation magazine in January 1868. The Nation is still around, but DeForest has been buried under history's dust. He also wrote novels but is now best known — if known at all — for initiating the great-novel game.
In his essay he defined the Great American Novel as a work that gives "the picture of the ordinary emotions and manners of American existence." He did not think that such a book had been written, not even his clumsily titled "Miss Ravenel's Conversion from Secession to Loyalty," published the



year before his essay.
He didn't think more famous works such as Nathaniel Hawthorne's "The Scarlet Letter" and James Fenimore Cooper's "The Last of the Mohicans" were deserving. But he did consider "Uncle Tom's Cabin" by Harriet Beecher Stowe to be "the nearest approach to the desired phenomenon." He elaborated, writing that it "was a picture of American life, drawn with a few strong and passionate strokes, not filled in thoroughly, but still a portrait."
In the more than 150 years since DeForest started all this there have been hundreds of Great American Novel contenders, and most lists include such writers, such as Ernest Hemingway, John Steinbeck, Herman Melville, Mark Twain, sometimes Chicago's Saul Bellow, rarely Nelson Algren, very

few women and never such bestselling authors as Stephen King or James Patterson.
Philip Roth, a justifiably acclaimed novelist, titled his 1973 book "The Great American Novel." It is good but not a contender.
But maybe it's just a matter of time — you would think so if you watched "CBS Sunday Morning" last Sunday or read a New York Times story last week, both about artificial intelligence and its ability to create "literature" — before ChatGPT or some other AI gizmo spits out the Great American Novel.
But enough. William Hazelgrove?
"I have been getting a lot of pushback from people who consider some other book to be the greatest American novel, but I expected that," he said.
Like many others, he first read "Gatsby" in high school but returned to



LYONS/SCRIBNER/ PENGUIN/SIMON & SCHUSTER

it when, after earning a master's degree in history, he decided to become a novelist. As he went about that career, eventually publishing nearly a dozen, he "realized how much I did not learn in school so (I) began reading or rereading all the classics."
"I was struck over and over by the elegance of Fitzgerald's writing," he told me. "And even now, while much of Hemingway seems dated and stiff, 'Gatsby' continues to inspire in part due to Fitzgerald's belief that it is possible to grab the American Dream, even while suffering its pitfalls."
Hazelgrove eventually began writing nonfiction and, as I have written before, brings a novelist's artfulness to his work, imbuing it with narrative force and enlivening and energizing his deep research. Among previous books on his ever-fill-

ing nonfiction shelf are "Madam President: The Secret Presidency of Edith Wilson," "Al Capone and the 1933 World's Fair," and "Sally Rand: American Sex Symbol."
In his latest he writes in his preface that "Gatsby" is "the greatest work of American fiction the world has ever known." He then gives readers a typically well-researched and smartly written story that focuses on the 11 months between the summer of 1924, when Fitzgerald began writing his novel, and April 10, 1925, when it was published.
You get a fine look at the writer before and after that writing interlude, on a booze-fueled journey from "one party to another and one hotel to another," and will cringe at the self-destructive antics of Fitzgerald and his wife Zelda, a pair who came to define the Jazz Age in all its raucous energy.

The end of Fitzgerald's life is particularly bleak.
Hazelgrove writes, "When he died in 1940 there were copies of 'The Great Gatsby' in the Scribner warehouse. ... The book had not gone out of print; worse, it didn't sell."
The final royalty statement sent to Scott in 1940 was for \$2.10 for the sale of seven copies of "The Great Gatsby" and nine copies of "Tender is the Night." But Hazelgrove also writes that "Gatsby" became a triumph of the artist over the philistine, the brilliant light over the darkness." It started to become popular during World War II, when the publisher donated free copies for soldiers. That contributed to a rediscovery and there have since been more than 25 million copies sold. The copyright expired in 2021.
Will reading this book compel you to grab a copy of "The Great Gatsby?"
It convinced me to read it for about the fifth time (Hazelgrove has read it 25 times). It is a terrific story and its ending was as haunting as ever: "He had come a long way to this blue lawn, and his dream must have seemed so close that he could hardly fail to grasp it. He did not know that it was already behind him, somewhere back in that vast obscurity beyond the city, where the dark fields of the republic rolled on under the night."
"Gatsby believed in the green light, the organic future that year by year recedes before us. It eluded us then, but that's no matter — tomorrow we will run faster, stretch out our arms farther. ... And one fine morning —"
"So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past."
This is a great ending to a very good book and I'll stand by that.

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PARAMOUNT THEATRE 2023-24

Season includes ‘Little Shop of Horrors,’ ‘A Streetcar Named Desire’

By Kayla Samoy
Chicago Tribune

Paramount Theatre in downtown Aurora announced a slate of new shows for its 2023-24 season, including four musicals for its Broadway Series and three shows for its BOLD Series at the Copley Theatre, its new sister stage across the street.

The Broadway series is focused on stories about curiosity, inspiration, passion, struggle and family, while the BOLD Series at Copley has selected stories that are honest and emotional.

Broadway Series

“Little Shop of Horrors” (Aug. 30-Oct. 15): Paramount’s 12th Broadway series kicks off

with this show from Howard Ashman and Alan Menken that features a carnivorous plant, an evil dentist and plenty of catchy tunes.

“Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” (Nov. 8-Jan. 14, 2024): This family-friendly musical based on Roald Dahl’s tale will take holiday theatergoers on a magical journey through Willy Wonka’s mysterious chocolate factory. Songs are by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman, as well as from the movie by Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley.

“Billy Elliot: The Musical” (Feb. 7, 2024-March 24, 2024): This show tells the story of an 11-year-old English boy who uncovers a love for ballet, with music by Elton John.

Book and lyrics by Lee Hall.

“Beautiful: The Carole King Musical” (April 24, 2024-June 16, 2024): Learn the true story behind Carole King’s rise to fame, from her start as a young songwriter from Brooklyn to one of the most successful artists in contemporary music history. Words and music by Gerry Goffin, Carole King, Barry Mann and Cynthia Weil.

BOLD Series

“Next to Normal” (July 26-Sept. 3): This Pulitzer Prize-winning musical that features a rock score is about how a family that appears to be normal is dealing with depression, denial and grief on the inside. A musical by Tom Kitt and Brian Yorkey.

“What the Constitution Means to Me” (Oct. 4-Nov. 12): Playwright Heidi Schreck’s play explores who the U.S. Constitution is truly for, and questions whether we should get rid of the Constitution and start over.

“A Streetcar Named Desire” (March 13, 2024-April 21, 2024): The Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Tennessee Williams, set in New Orleans, explores the themes of hope and despair, and the difference between reality and illusion.

Paramount Theatre is located at 23 E. Galena Blvd. and the Copley Theatre is located at 8 E. Galena Blvd.; more information at 630-896-6666 and paramountaurora.com



A protest sign calling for safer movie sets is seen in an image taken during a vigil for the slain cinematographer Halyna Hutchins. FILE

Phillips

from Page 1

for the on-set armorers he has worked with. He has, he says, also seen younger fellow actors “do some crazy, stupid (stuff) with guns over the years on set. Like it’s no big deal.”

Last week, Baldwin was charged with two counts of involuntary manslaughter by the Santa Fe County, New Mexico, district attorney’s office. The “Rust” armorer responsible for firearm safety on the set, Hannah Gutierrez Reed, was likewise charged with involuntary manslaughter.

Meanwhile, “Rust” first assistant director Dave Halls agreed to a plea deal on a charge of negligent use of a deadly weapon. Halls allegedly is the one who called out “cold gun,” meaning: The pistol about to be handed to Baldwin for his next scene is safe, either empty or containing decoy or “dummy” rounds.

Was Baldwin criminally negligent for not checking his pistol before rehearsing, with his finger on the trigger? Shannon has some thoughts on that. I talked to him because I wanted to hear an actor discuss his experience with firearm safety protocol, in Shannon’s case on everything from “Boardwalk Empire” to “The Iceman.” More recently, the actor made his feature directorial debut on “Eric Larue,” based on the Brett Neveu drama (first a Chicago premiere, at A Red Orchid Theatre) set in the eerie aftermath of a school shooting.

The following has been edited for length and clarity.

Q: We’ve read a lot from variously informed people about whether Alec Baldwin deserves these involuntary manslaughter charges, whether they’ll stick, and what appears to have failed completely with the safety protocols on “Rust.” For those of us who’ve never handled firearms on a movie set, walk us through the process.

A: Sure. It’s not a sloppy procedure, in my experience. It’s very, very meticulous. On most sets, if there is any activity that’s considered potentially risky in any way, shape or form, they start the day with a safety meeting the assistant director runs. They go through all the possible dangerous on-camera activity, and how we’re going to handle that to make sure nobody gets hurt. That’s how the

day starts. And all of the armorers I’ve worked with have been super fastidious about what they do.

But “Rust” is an example of a problem I see in filmmaking more and more these days. On smaller productions, independent productions, the producers keep wanting more and more for less and less. They don’t want to give you enough money. They cut corners, ridiculously, every which way. And they get away with it. (“Rust” began shooting with a \$7 million production budget.) So every time someone makes a great movie for a million dollars, it sets a precedent. The financiers say, well, Joe Blow made a movie for a million, we’re gonna give you a million, too. And you’re, like, “But I need \$3 million to make it the right way.” And they say “Well, I guess you won’t do it, then.” They whittle the budget down to the bare minimum — but the one thing you can’t cut corners on is your armorer. If you have guns in your movie, that’s no place to cut corners.

The person on “Rust” clearly was not qualified for the job. She should not have been there.

Q: According to the prosecutor, it was up to Baldwin, in addition to the armorer, to ensure the safety of the pistol Baldwin was using for the scene. After the charges last week, the Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists responded in part with this union statement: “The prosecutor’s contention that an actor has a duty to ensure the functional and mechanical operation of a firearm on a production set is wrong and uninformed. An actor’s job is not to be a firearms or weapons expert.”

A: That’s right. If it were up to the actor to determine whether a firearm is safe or not, you wouldn’t need an armorer in the first place. Being an armorer is a hard job, a demanding job, and I have nothing but respect for them. But in this instance, it was going into the ER and finding out your doctor isn’t a real doctor.

When you’re rehearsing a scene with a gun in it, and you’re on set, the gun you’re given almost always is not a gun. It’s a rubber replica. Maybe a plastic one. It is not a firearm. (Video of Baldwin rehearsing a cross-draw before filming a scene from “Rust” reveals the actor with his

finger on or near the trigger of the weapon that ultimately killed Hutchins.) That’s what you have during any sort of rehearsal or walk-through, right up until you’re figuring out the shot, and what your firing line will be, all of that. You shouldn’t have the actual weapon in your hand until immediately before doing the take.

Now, sometimes that doesn’t happen. Sometimes they’ll give you the actual gun to rehearse with a little closer to filming. But there’s a procedure for that. They open the barrel. They show you there’s nothing in there. They show you the chambers, they show the assistant director, and it’s a visual confirmation. The AD’s supposed to check it, the actor checks it and the armorer has checked it. All three of those people have to see there’s nothing in there. And then they hand it to you.

With “Rust,” before that gun went into his hand, (Baldwin) should have seen with his own eyes there was nothing in it.

Q: But not on his own initiative?

A: No. The armorer should’ve brought the gun over to him and said: Here is your firearm. It is empty. Or maybe (the gun) has decoy or dummy rounds in it; you pull the trigger, nothing happens. But you never settle for walking up to an actor and handing the gun over without showing them what’s inside of it. Ever. That was the cataclysmic event on “Rust.” (There have been widespread reports of problems on the “Rust” set prior to the fatal accident involving the accidental discharge of firearms.)

As an actor, if I’m handed a weapon, my finger does not go in the trigger hole at all. I learned this at a very young age as an actor. You lay your finger outside, along the barrel of the gun. You do not put your finger in the trigger hole unless you’re going for a take. If you’re holding a firearm between takes, which you shouldn’t be, you point it at the ground until somebody comes and collects it from you.

I’m not condemning Alec. I feel horrible for the guy. It’s a nightmare. I feel terrible for everyone on that production. But this is what happens when you lowball and cut corners and hire people that may not be qualified, and pay them next to nothing, and make

the movie on the cheap. People get jobs in this business because they’re willing to work for a low enough fee. I see it all the time.

Since this happened, I think the armorer might become obsolete. There’s a big push now to do (all the gunfire) in post, you know, postproduction. No more live firing on set, period. So you act like you’re firing a gun when you’re not. It’s called “acting.” And it’s truly not worth dying for.

The other thing you could do, I guess, is take the frickin’ gunplay out of movies in general. I mean, enough, already. You want to watch somebody shoot somebody? There are 500,000 movies already with plenty of it.

Q: Well, that would take care of “Bullet Train” and a few other movies you’ve ...

A: Yeah, but I mean, “Bullet Train” isn’t really based in any conceivable reality that I know. And most of the time I was using a sword in that one. Look, I’m not the poster boy for anything here. But it’s something to think about. Sometimes I wish or wonder if it’ll ever get old.

Q: As an actor do you feel at all conflicted, though? Recreational screen slaughter is still a very big American export. For the average action moviegoer anywhere in the world, it’s the commodity they want.

A: I don’t know. That’s what video games are for, I guess. It’s imaginary and there’s no risk of hurting anybody, as long as it doesn’t inspire you to go out and wreak havoc in real life. Some people draw a connection (between gaming violence and real-world shootings), some people don’t. I guess I don’t see what’s entertaining about it to begin with — this notion of getting vicarious thrills from firearms in the movies. Where’s the thrill? Do we all secretly want to know what it’s like to shoot someone?

Q: You’re coming off your first feature film as director, “Eric Larue.” I saw the world premiere on stage in Chicago 21 years and something like 400 school shootings ago. I wish that were an exaggeration. The story deals with a sobering subject, treated in an unexpected way, with what happens after a school shooting as seen through the eyes of the mother of the killer.

A: Who knows, maybe for every “Bullet Train” out there, we can get behind another, smaller movie like ours to counteract it, and to remind people that (gun violence) is no joke. That it destroys people’s lives. That’s my tit-for-tat idea for the day.

Shannon’s feature directorial debut “Eric Larue,” adapted from Brett Neveu’s play, is now in postproduction, starring Judy Greer.

Michael Phillips is a Tribune critic.
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Stepping forward

Barton will be Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's next resident choreographer



Lauren Warnecke

Internationally renowned Canadian American choreographer Aszure Barton will be Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's next artist-in-residence.

The appointment follows a long vacancy after resident choreographer Alejandro Cerrudo's departure in 2018.

"Aszure is one of the most important choreographers of the 21st century," said Hubbard Street artistic director Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell. "I've always been a fan of her work. For her to find trust and stability with us is huge."

Barton's arrangement, set to begin in the fall, is dissimilar to Cerrudo's time as resident choreographer, a title he held for 10 years. Cerrudo lived in Chicago full time and, until 2015, was also a dancer in the company. He now leads the Charlotte Ballet.

Barton's tenure is likely to be more transient. She'll come to Chicago for two weeks here, four weeks there, ad libitum.

Barton's residency is also less focused on output.

Hubbard Street may perform existing works from her catalog. There may be new works too. A semi-firm plan includes three or four pieces in the span of three years, but the primary goal is to afford Barton time, space and some of the country's best dancers to hone her craft.

That stands in stark contrast to the typical commissioning structure in large dance companies, in which independent

choreographers traverse the country churning out completed works in the span of three to six weeks.

Specifics are intentionally loose. Fisher-Harrell compares the residency to The Tharp Project, an initiative in partnership with prolific choreographer Twyla Tharp from 1990-95. The Tharp Project took place during Fisher-Harrell's brief tenure as a dancer in Hubbard Street before she joined Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre.

During the five-year period Tharp staged several existing works on Hubbard Street that became a cornerstone of their aesthetic in the '90s: "Nine Sinatra Songs," "Fugue" and "Fait Accompli," among them. The project culminated in a new work titled "I Remember Clifford."

"But this is even deeper and richer," said Fisher-Harrell. "There's the opportunity to set this space and time aside for Aszure to work with these brilliant artists and see what comes out."

"There was no question for me," Barton said in an interview with the Tribune. "I have been asked in the past if I would consider being an artist-in-residence somewhere — which is exciting and wonderful."

"However, there was this welcoming warmth (at Hubbard Street) and real support of who I am as a human being and how that feeds the work. Sometimes you just know who you can trust."

Barton's history with Hubbard Street goes back 20 years. At the dawn of her career she created "I" for Hubbard Street 2, and in 2010 made "Untouched" for the main company.



Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell, left, with Aszure Barton.
LOU FOGLIA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago has had only glimpses of her work since; Barton's pickup company performed "Awaa" at the now-shuttered Chicago Dancing Festival in 2016. A year later the Cuban company Malpaso (led by Osnel Delgado, who'd later collaborate with Hubbard Street) performed her "Indomitable Waltz" as part of an evening at the Dance Center of Columbia College.

Then there's "Busk." First staged in 2009, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre performed an iteration of this work in Chicago days before the pandemic shutdown. We saw "Busk" again a year-and-a-half later as part of Hubbard Street's return to the stage in 2021. Barton spent a few weeks with the company restaging the piece, which has remained in regular rotation ever since.

"'Busk' became a different piece when I was here," Barton said. "When you're in a space that really carries you and believes in you, it's that simple sometimes."

The announcement is also a symbolic show of strength for Hubbard Street. Cerrudo's 2018 departure was followed by a cascade of events (some a direct result of the pandemic, some not) that include the sale of their West Loop building and change of artistic directors. Fisher-Harrell came into that role in 2021.

With a new home studio at Water Tower Place, staff at near-capacity and now a three-year financial commitment to a single choreographer, Hubbard Street's once-shaky ground appears to have solidified.

"Through all the ups and downs there's been

a commitment to being a world-class company," said executive director David McDermott. "That's where we put our resources. If you don't invest in the art, it's not going to work."

McDermott declined to say what the residency will cost Hubbard Street. He noted precedents set by investing in Tharp and Cerrudo as periods in Hubbard Street's history in which public buy-in and artistic excellence catalyzed financial stability for the company.

"Moving back into a relationship like this with a world-class choreographer is a total no-brainer," he said.

In other dance news ...

The Dance Center of Columbia College

named Meredith Sutton as interim director of the Dance Presenting Series, following a period of relative dormancy for that venue. Sutton's appointment follows the July 2022 departure of Ellen Chenoweth, who held the position for five years.

Sutton previously was program manager of the Presenting Series, arriving in Chicago in 2022 after faculty appointments at the University of Southern Mississippi, Tulane University and the University of Virginia. The Dance Presenting Series is thus showing signs of life, with appearances by Staycee Pearl Dance Project in February, FLOCK in March and a revival of Jumaane Taylor's inimitable "Supreme Love" in April.

Lauren Warnecke is a freelance critic.

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Employees of the publisher HarperCollins strike outside the company's offices Nov. 15 in New York City. **SPENCER PLATT/GETTY**

BIBLIORACLE

Publishing teams that bring books to life deserve to have living wage

By John Warner
For Chicago Tribune

There is a romantic notion that a book is the product of a single author's obsessive work, perhaps locked away somewhere — a garret or a basement — sweating the details down to the last comma.

While there's some measure of truth in this image, when you go into a store and hold that finished book in your hands, in reality, you're looking at the product of the work of dozens of people — editors, designers, marketers, publicists — literal teams that are tasked with bringing an author's work to its best final form.

Having witnessed this process with each of my own books and comparing the final package with what I might've been able to accomplish on my own, I came to appreciate the necessity of these people with the expertise and dedication to doing the work not of writing, but of publishing.

Currently, some of the folks who do that work for the publisher HarperCollins are on strike in order to establish conditions of employment that allow them to do their work better, work that ultimately benefits all of us as readers.

After having worked without a contract since last April, staffers from the design,

marketing, legal, publicity and sales departments called for an indefinite strike this past November. Since that time, HarperCollins reportedly hasn't engaged in formal bargaining sessions with union leaders.

The primary negotiation point for the striking workers is raising the minimum pay from \$45,000 per year to \$50,000 in order to make it more possible for lower-level employees to live in New York City, one of the most expensive cities in the country and the locus of the majority of U.S. publishing.

Authors, including HarperCollins authors, have pledged support for the striking workers. That includes big names like Barbara Kingsolver and Jacqueline Woodson. Additionally, more than 200 literary agents have pledged not to submit any new manuscripts to the publisher until the strike is resolved.

Importantly, the striking workers are not asking people to boycott HarperCollins books, recognizing that such a move would punish authors.

It's a complicated dynamic, as Dan Kois writes in an essay at Slate discussing his conflicted feelings over publishing his debut novel "Vintage Contemporaries" with HarperCollins, even as he supports

the staffers who are on strike.

There does not appear to be a way to force HarperCollins to the bargaining table, unless things really start to fall apart. The money it would take to increase the minimum salaries of staffers is truly trivial measured against the size of HarperCollins corporate parent News Corp.'s bottom line.

I must admit that for a number of weeks, I've wanted to write about this situation, but have hesitated because I wanted to be able to provide a suggested action or some fresh insight on the situation, but the fact of the matter is that things are at an impasse and there's not much bystanders like us can do about it.

But as I realized that the vast majority of regular reading folks are probably not aware of the strike, and might not know the kind of service these employees provide, I felt the least I could do is to use my platform to say that these workers deserve a living wage, and the books we read would be lesser things without them.

John Warner is the author of "Why They Can't Write: Killing the Five-Paragraph Essay and Other Necessities."

Twitter @biblioracle

Book recommendations from the Biblioracle

John Warner tells you what to read based on the last five books you've read.

1. "Hamnet" by Maggie O'Farrell
 2. "Coventry" by Helen Humphreys
 3. "Mister Pip" by Lloyd Jones
 4. "The Lantern Men" by Elly Griffiths
 5. "What are People For?" by Wendell Berry
- Anna N., Winnipeg, Manitoba
- A Willy Vlautin novel is a powerful emotional experience, and it's not something every reader appreciates, but looking at this list, I think Anna will be absorbed and moved by "Don't Skip Out on Me."

1. "Beyond the Sea" by Paul Lynch
 2. "The Man Who Died" by Antti Tuomainen
 3. "Afterlives" by Abdulrazak Gurnah
 4. "Sugar Street" by Jonathan Dee
 5. "Weapons of Mass Delusion" by Robert Draper
- Bill M., Atlanta
- For Bill, I'm going to suggest a pairing that I experienced by reading "Sugar Street" and Lydia Millet's "Dinosaurs" back-to-back, two novels with a similar premise — a main character who walks away from a previous life — with very different trajectories after those acts.

1. "The Professor and the Parson" by Adam Sisman
 2. "In a Free State" by V.S. Naipaul
 3. "Prometheus Bound" by Aeschylus
 4. "The Looking-Glass War" by John le Carré
 5. "An African in Greenland" Tété-Michel Kpomassie
- Connor G., Oxford, England
- For Connor, I'm going to recommend a mordantly funny novel about philosophy. Looking at this list, he looked like a good candidate for Lars Iyer's "Spurious."

Get a reading from the Biblioracle

Send a list of the last five books you've read to books@chicagotribune.com

What to watch SUNDAY

January 29, 2023

All times Central. Start times can vary based on cable/satellite provider. Confirm times on your on-screen guide.

Godzilla Movie Marathon

Comet, Beginning at 10 a.m.

Giant monsters from Japan's Toho Studios (mostly Godzilla) stomp all over Comet this afternoon and evening in a 16-hour movie marathon featuring **Godzilla, King of the Monsters!** (1956), **Godzilla vs. Monster Zero** (aka Invasion of Astro-Monster, 1965), **War of the Gargantuas** (1966), **Son of Godzilla** (1967), **Destroy All Monsters** (1968), **Godzilla vs. Megalon** (1973), **Godzilla vs. Mechagodzilla** (1974) and **Terror of Mechagodzilla** (1975). Visit comettv.com for more info and availability.

NFL Playoffs: Conference Championships

FOX & CBS, Beginning at 2 p.m. Live

The teams playing in Super Bowl LVII Feb. 12 in Glendale, Arizona, are determined today with the San Francisco 49ers at the Philadelphia Eagles in the NFC (FOX) and the Cincinnati Bengals at the Kansas City Chiefs in the AFC (CBS) championship games.

Figure Skating: U.S. Championships

NBC, 2 p.m. Live

The finals of the U.S. Figure Skating



SERGEI BACHLAKOV, CBS

Championships from San Jose, California, air live today on NBC.

Finding Love in San Antonio

UPTv, 6 p.m. ■ Original Film

Adela Romero (Valentina Izarra), a successful Los Angeles TV chef, is offered a new network series that will send her traveling around Europe. But when her homesick young daughter (Isabella Rivera-Gandulla) runs back to San Antonio — where her heart is and where the restaurant at which Adela got her start is now struggling — Adela must consider much more than just the excitement of personal fulfillment.

Miss Scarlet and the Duke

PBS, 7 p.m.

In "Bloodline," Detective Fitzroy (Evan McCabe) sees one of his colleagues plant evidence on a suspect. With Duke (Stuart Martin) away, he turns to Eliza (Kate Phillips) and hires her to look into a case of police corruption.

The Way Home

Hallmark Channel, 8 p.m.

In the episode "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing," Alice (Sadie Laflamme-Snow) falls in love with the past and has her first kiss, while Kat (Chyler Leigh) starts a job at the local paper.

All Creatures Great and Small

PBS, 8 p.m.

In the episode "What a Balls Up!" TB testing mistakenly puts a prize cow in danger, Helen (Rachel Shenton) struggles with her lifelong vocation, and Mrs. Hall (Anna Madeley) and Tristan (Callum Woodhouse) have brushes with love.

Fire Country

CBS, 9 p.m.

In the new episode "Two Pink Lines" airing after CBS coverage of the NFL's AFC Championship Game, Bode (Max Thieriot) and his fellow prison-inmate firefighters band together with the civilian station crew to battle a monstrous fire that erupts after a plane crash.



en't so compatible when they both demonstrate unflinching commitment to their

work. The freewheeling but pinpoint-sharp screenplay by Ring Lardner Jr. and Michael Kanin won an Oscar, and Hepburn was nominated for Best Actress. In the film, the legendary Hollywood pair forged a fresh and realistic vision of what marriage could be, and it marked the beginning of the long-lasting personal and professional union between Hepburn and Tracy, who would go on to make eight more films together. Woman of the Year stands as a dazzling, funny and sometimes rueful observation of what it takes for men and women to get along — both in the workplace and out of it.

MOVIES YOU'LL LOVE



DISNEY

- Goodfellas** (1990, Crime drama) Robert De Niro, Ray Liotta **Vice, 5 p.m.**
- Minions** (2015, Children) Sandra Bullock, Jon Hamm **Nick, 5 p.m.**
- True Lies** (1994, Action) Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jamie Lee Curtis **AMC, 5 p.m.**
- Bohemian Rhapsody** (2018, Biography) Rami Malek, Lucy Boynton **FXM, 6 p.m.**
- Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom** (2018, Adventure) Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard **FX, 6 p.m.**
- Sing** (2016, Children) Matthew McConaughey, Reese Witherspoon **NBC, 6 p.m.**
- Thor: Ragnarok** (2017, Action) Chris Hemsworth, Tom Hiddleston **TNT, 6 p.m.**
- Wreck-It Ralph** (2012, Children) John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman **Disney, 6 p.m.**
- Dangerous** (1935, Drama) Bette Davis, Franchot Tone **TCM, 7 p.m.**
- The Avengers** (2012, Action) Robert Downey Jr., Chris Evans **ABC, 7 p.m.**
- RV** (2006, Children) Robin Williams, Jeff Daniels **CMT, 7:30 p.m.**
- Aquaman** (2018, Action) Jason Momoa, Amber Heard **TBS, 9 p.m.**
- Trapped With My Husband** (2022, Suspense) Camille Stopps, Jacob Richter **LMN, 9 p.m.**

From the editors of TV Weekly and tvinsider.com



TCM	*** Gray Gardens ('75, Documentary) Former socialites become recluses in decrepit mansion.	*** La Promesse ('96, Drama) (Jérémy Renard) teenager befriends a widowed illegal immigrant.
TLC	My Knees <i>N</i> Skin/Peeling <i>N</i>	My Baby Weighs <i>N</i> Body/Shall <i>N</i>
TNT	NBA Basketball Washington Wizards at Boston Celtics.	<i>N</i> In NBA <i>N</i> *** Shan <i>N</i>
TRAVEL	Delicious Delicious Bizarre Foods/Zimmer	Best Bars Best Bars Delicious
TRU	Carbonaro Carbonaro Carbonaro Carbonaro	Imp. Jokers Imp. Jokers Imp. Jokers



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No limits to musical journey

Velvet Underground co-founder, producer and solo artist mentoring new generation of avant-garde creators

By **Lindsay Zoladz**
The New York Times

Just a few years after he'd left the provincial Welsh mining town where he was born, a 23-year-old John Cale was invited — along with his friend Lou Reed and their budding band the Velvet Underground — to Andy Warhol's Factory in New York.

"The first day you walked in, you joined the Academy," Cale said recently, recalling the first meeting with the pop art power broker who would become the band's manager.

"The atmosphere of that place was really special," the musician, now 80, added; artists from all over "came in and unzipped a bag of magic."

It was, however, just the beginning of one of the most accomplished resumes in rock history, if not 20th-century culture. Cale studied under John Cage and Aaron Copland, and later learned about the transformative power of drone from avant-garde musicians La Monte Young and Tony Conrad. He had a fling with Edie Sedgwick and a short marriage to Betsey Johnson. After he was unceremoniously booted from the Velvet Underground in 1968, he became a prolific, risk-taking producer, helming trailblazing albums by the Stooges, the Modern Lovers, Nico and Patti Smith. His catalog as a solo artist is unbelievably rich, tonally varied and full of buried treasure. He is arguably responsible for plucking a little-known Leonard Cohen deep cut called "Hallelujah" out of obscurity. He is inarguably the most important electric viola player rock has ever seen.

On Cale's recently released album, "Mercy" — his 17th as a solo artist — he occasionally glances back with songs that honor late friends like David Bowie and Nico. But more often, he's making art focused firmly and defiantly in the present, responding to the political turmoil of the day and collaborating with a supporting cast of younger avant-garde and indie artists: Celestial crooner Weyes Blood, punky provocateurs Fat White Family and art-rock dreamers Animal Collective all make guest appearances.

"I consider it an honor to watch little decisions he makes," Animal Collective multi-instrumentalist Brian Weitz (who records as Geologist), said. "He'll throw out one or two



Musician and producer John Cale, seen Dec. 28 in Los Angeles, has released his 17th album as a solo artist, "Mercy." **CHANTAL ANDERSON/THE NEW YORK TIMES**



Cale studies a musical score in New York in 1963, the year he came to the state. **EDDIE HAUSNER/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

sentences to explain it, and it means the world."

The breadth of Cale's accomplishments has left his collaborators and admirers in awe.

"If you had one part of his career, you'd be a legend," LCD Soundsystem's James Murphy said. "If you were only the producer that John Cale was, you'd go down in history. If you were only in the Velvet Underground, your ticket's punched to rock 'n' roll heaven. But then you did all those Island solo records, and the Eno collaboration, and then 'Songs for Drella,'" he added, referring to Cale's 1990 reunion with Reed, before trailing off.

In 1963, Cale came to

New York and quickly fell in with Conrad, Young and the boldly minimalist Theater of Eternal Music. At last he'd found community and the mind-expanding experiences for which he'd always longed. But the glory days didn't last long.

Warhol spent the latter part of 1968 recovering from a gunshot wound; by the end of the summer, Reed had given the rest of the Velvet Underground a Cale-or-me ultimatum and insisted that guitarist Sterling Morrison break the news. For all their merits, the albums that the band released without Cale are quieter and more conventional.

"It made some other people in the band

unhappy, but it was just a challenge to me," Cale said of his ousting. "I decided, well, OK, you can sit on your hands and do nothing, or you can get up, move your butt and produce some things."

The first album he worked on would change Nico's image forever, the stark, harrowing "Marble Index." The second was the Stooges' 1969 self-titled debut, one of the founding documents of punk.

After the refined chamber-pop of his great 1973 album "Paris 1919," Cale's solo work grew increasingly feral, too. He unleashed lacerating screams on the 1974 album "Fear" and embraced post-punk on the adventurous "Honi Soit," from 1981.

Cale and Reed hadn't spoken in years when they ran into each other at Warhol's funeral in 1987. The old spark was back, and they began work on a tribute to their former manager, which would become the theatrical, confidently sparse "Songs for Drella." By the time it arrived in 1990, they were no longer speaking. A Velvet Underground reunion in the early 1990s was similarly short-lived, also owing to creative differences between Cale and Reed, who died in 2013.

Cale cleaned up his rock

'n' roll lifestyle when his daughter, Eden, was born in 1985. He released more classically minded albums and continued to exert an inconspicuous influence on musical culture.

In the early 1990s, a French record label asked him to contribute to a Cohen tribute album. He chose "Hallelujah" — a song from the 1984 album "Various Positions" — and made some tweaks to the lyrics and simplified the song's arrangement. His version certainly struck a chord. When Jeff Buckley first began playing the song, a magazine editor in the audience told him backstage that he liked his Cohen cover. "I haven't heard Leonard Cohen's version," Buckley is said to have replied. "I know it by John Cale."

In recent years, Cale has become a generous collaborator with younger artists, and a kind of living conduit to avant-garde history and wisdom.

"I jokingly tell people that it's like a friendly godfather-type relationship that I have with him," Animal Collective's Weitz said. Cale has long been an admirer of the band, and Weitz described their reciprocal appearances on each other's records — Cale played on the band's 2016 album "Painting With," and

Animal Collective appears on a track from "Mercy" — as a kind of "music-for-music swap."

Cale still makes art on the edge. In June 2019, he headlined the DMZ Peace Train Festival on the border between North and South Korea. In 2014, at London's Barbican museum, he conducted the first orchestra of flying drones. A certain defiance also courses through "Mercy," a slow, meditative album. The songs have immediate emotional resonance, but they ask the listener for patience, too.

LCD Soundsystem's Murphy admires that.

"He always approaches it as, 'What's interesting to me right now?' rather than being careerist," he said. "Songs made by people like that last in a very different way. They feel alive and current for much longer, because they're made with respect."

There are plenty more of them coming, too. Cale spent much of the pandemic holed up in his studio, and he estimates that he has written around 80 new compositions in the past few years.

"Something snapped, in a good way," he said. "It was like, you can't turn your back on this. This is something that's going to go on. And I want to go on."

Mold-A-Rama

from Page 1

is basically what a Mold-A-Rama machine does. The company still creates new statues every year, Paul explained, but searching for someone who can design and sculpt two sides of a plastic object? "It's a lost art." The machine squashes together the two sides into a single object. Then hot plastic pellets are injected into a sculpted cavity inside the two blocks. Simultaneously, cold air is being blown through the blocks, to hollow out the statue. During this stage, within a few moments, a Mold-A-Rama statue plunges from 250 degrees to 95 degrees.

The result is soft at first, warm and, as any Gen-Xer will vouch, seemingly indestructible.

So much so that the exhibit itself questions the ethics of buying a Mold-A-Rama. Even as it celebrates this novelty medium and its generations of stewards, the show wonders: "Does it really make sense to create disposable products that we use for a few minutes but last hundreds of years?" Ironically, souvenirs bought in zoos and museums dedicated to the study of nature might break down into the kind of nanoplastics that get ingested by animals, becoming harm-



Camron Thompson, from left, Larsen Salah and Autumn Bernhardt delight as their selected Mold-A-Rama statue is created on a machine at the Mold-A-Rama exhibit at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago on Jan. 20. **ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS**

ful to nature (including people). "Maybe," the wall text suggests, "we can use our ingenuity to design a better way of meeting our needs."

Or hey, Debbie Downer curators, maybe you don't appreciate a plastic hippo molded before your eyes?

Since 1971, the Jones family's Mold-A-Rama machines have pumped out 10 million souvenirs. These days, it's a smaller operation: They own 63 machines in five states, including more than a dozen at the Brookfield Zoo. (The zoo's dolphin Mold-A-Rama is the company's all-time bestseller, locally and

nationally.) Their only competition is Florida-based Mold-A-Matic, which has been in the molded-plastic souvenir game even longer; they primarily serve Florida amusement parks and zoos across the South.

Like other creations gathering dust in our closets, the Mold-A-Rama began as an act of home-grown ingenuity. A Quincy inventor named J.H. "Tike" Miller — whom the exhibition describes as a "serial entrepreneur" — was looking for a way to replace the figures in his Nativity scene. When the U.S. halted imports from Germany during World

War II, he sought a way to craft new statues with injection molding. Having solved Nativity shortages, he moved on to aliens and animals.

Eventually, he sold his patent for a free-standing molding machine to Automatic Retailers of America, which named the technology Mold-A-Rama. It debuted at the 1962 World's Fair in Seattle with a monorail statue, then cutting-edge tech. (The MSI exhibit offers new molds of this first statue.)

By the early '70s, however, the ARA was ready to scrap its Mold-A-Rama division. That's when the Jones family stepped in.



A small plastic statue of a dinosaur. Mold-A-Rama are small plastic statues made by freestanding coin-operated and credit card machines in museums and zoos.

William Jones, Paul's father — now in his 80s, and still a co-owner with his son — bought Mold-A-Rama machines and expanded. They hired freelance artists to craft what became a menagerie of miniature plastic statues:

Alligators and gorillas and devils and Franksteins and Toledo Mud Hens and Canadian maple leaves and the Sears Tower and eagles and Christmas trees and Mickey Mouse and Kewpie dolls and two types of Abraham Lincoln. Even the bus inside which Rosa Parks made history. For the Milwaukee County Zoo, they make bats, Santa Claus and sea horses. For the Henry Ford Museum in Michigan, they make a tiny Henry Ford, an adorable Wienermobile and, ghoulishly, the Lincoln in which JFK was assassinated.

The MSI show includes all these, plus a taste of the process, a brief history of molded plastic and samples of the raw materials.

Mold-A-Rama uses plastic made by the conglomerate Honeywell, and since plastic is made from refined oil, Paul Jones cringes every time oil prices soar. Mold-A-Rama, he said, is meant to remain an affordable tchotchke. He doesn't see why the Mold-A-Rama can't go on. His own kids are in their 20s and "their generation is not as materialistic. They are more about the experience, and this is both. You get the souvenir, and you get the experience of plastic molded in front of you."

"We're on trend. I just turned 56 and I have been going to MSI since I was 16 and so this is a piece of my life on display there now. My dad's life. Our family business. You're proud of it in one breath, and in the next breath? It's hard to understand that popularity."

One word: Plastics.

cborrelli@chicagotribune.com

A stylized illustration of Toni Stone, a Black woman, holding a baseball. She is wearing a white baseball jersey with blue and red trim. The background is a mix of purple and blue with some white speckles. The title 'Toni Stone' is written in a large, white, cursive font across the middle of the illustration.

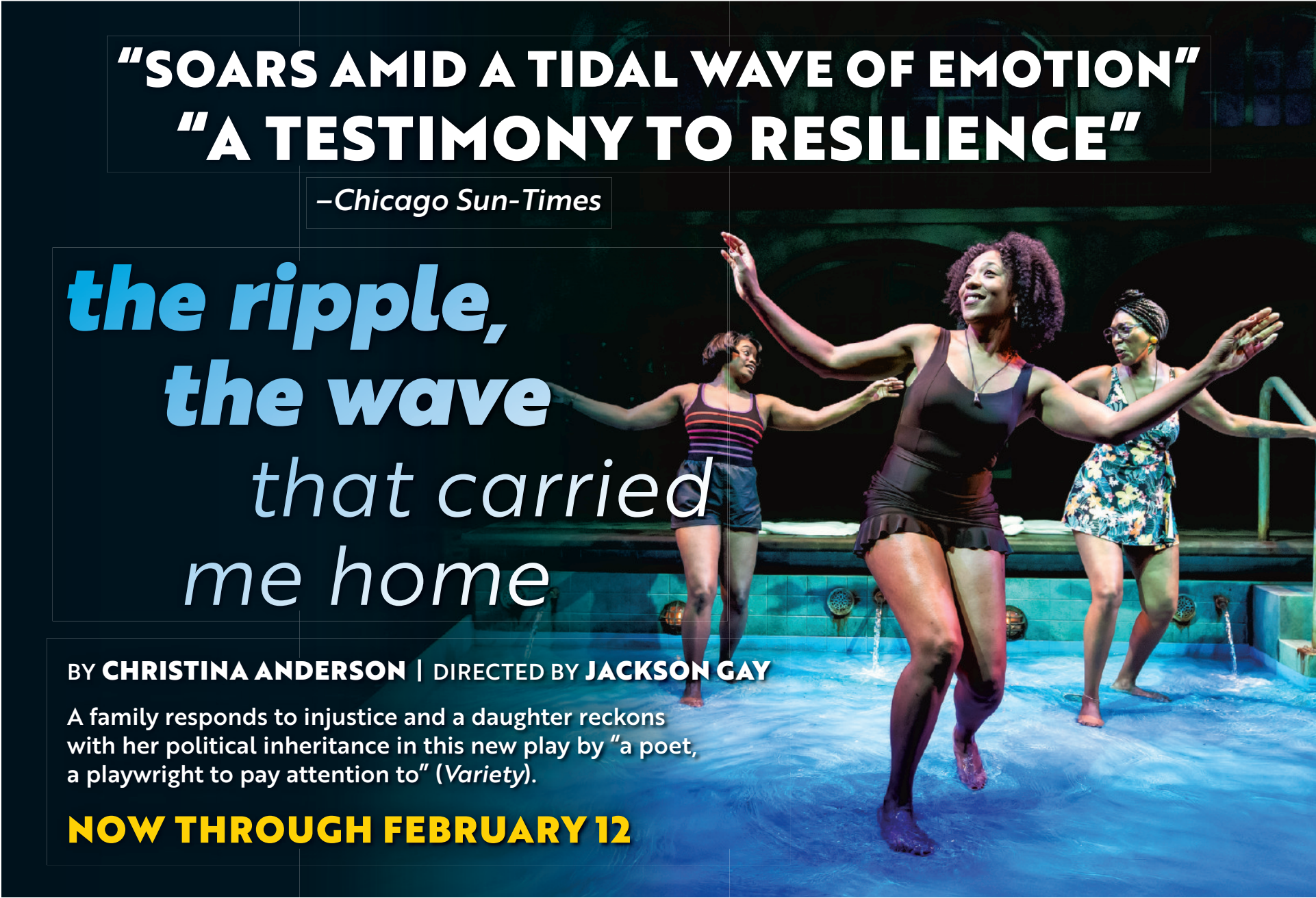
Toni Stone

AN ORIGINAL PLAY BY **LYDIA R. DIAMOND**
DIRECTED BY **RON OJ PARSON**

Play ball! The sensational true story of the first woman to play professional baseball knocks it out of the park as a can't-miss theatrical event.

Toni Stone is an encyclopedia of baseball stats. She's got a great arm. And she doesn't understand why she can't play with the boys. Rejected by the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League because of her race, Toni sets out to become the first woman to play in baseball's Negro Leagues—and shatter racist and sexist barriers in the sport she's loved since childhood.

NOW THROUGH FEBRUARY 26

A photograph of three women in a pool, likely from the play 'The Ripple, the Wave that Carried Me Home'. They are wearing swimsuits and are in a dynamic pose, suggesting a dance or a performance. The background is dark and moody.

**"SOARS AMID A TIDAL WAVE OF EMOTION"
"A TESTIMONY TO RESILIENCE"**

—Chicago Sun-Times

**the ripple,
the wave
that carried
me home**

BY **CHRISTINA ANDERSON** | DIRECTED BY **JACKSON GAY**

A family responds to injustice and a daughter reckons with her political inheritance in this new play by "a poet, a playwright to pay attention to" (*Variety*).

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LIFE

Boosting Chicago's neighborhoods

\$5.5 million grant aims to expand tourism in 12 more underrepresented communities

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CHICAGO
TRIBUNE



NATHAN MORGAN/THE NEW YORK TIMES

TRAVEL

TIME TRAVEL

From the Kentucky Bourbon Trail to Kansas City's 18th & Vine, here are 5 Midwest cities steeped in Black history

LIFE

Spotlight on Lanetta Turner

Toni Preckwinkle's chief of staff is using a county equity fund to uplift Black and brown communities

BRIAN CASSELLA / CHICAGO TRIBUNE



DREAMSTIME

BALANCING ACT

'You got everything?'

It's a question for your teenager that can mean all the things that come rushing out of your heart, writes Heidi Stevens

BRING



HOME.

SM

Your Goodwill® purchases fund job training and more in your community. Even those frames that show off your twin pugs.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Isolated friend sends ‘woke’ email polemics

Dear Amy: Due to a health condition, an acquaintance sequestered herself during the pandemic and has remained so for almost three years now. I think it’s messing with her mind, as she is getting further “out there.”

On Thanksgiving, I was joyful that we could finally spend time in our home with just two other family members. But that evening, I got a long email from her about how she can no longer honor Thanksgiving, now that she is aware of how the Indians were treated, that it’s a bogus holiday and she hopes I will join her in boycotting it going forward. She ruined what had been a joyful day.

I try to be as woke as the next person, but believe that we can celebrate and be thankful as Americans on a day set aside specifically for this purpose without turning it into a “thing.”

I’m tired of her religious, political (even though we are on the same side) and now holiday emails about things that she feels very strongly about, where she expects (even demands) that I feel the same way. Why must people insist on ruining life’s little joys?

She is a good person, but I have had enough. I’m sure she feels isolated by the pandemic. What can I say to her?

— Exhausted

Dear Exhausted: If merely learning someone else’s views ruins your holiday, then you should reexamine your holiday.

Your friend’s views about Thanksgiving aren’t particularly “out there,” but are the result of a

culturewide reassessment of public monuments and the back story of some holidays. Many Americans are grappling with these issues.

There is no question that the pandemic has completely altered the way many of us live. The illness itself, the trauma of loss, the enforced isolation, the risk to those with underlying health problems and now the fear of further illness has led many people to withdraw. Years of anxiety have affected mental health. Isolation has inspired people to connect and share their views on social media or via email.

You have the ability and the right to push back and express how you feel about her demand that you must think the way she thinks.

You could ask your friend to keep in touch, but not to send you polemics. Or you could assign emails from her to a special folder, where you can read them during times when you won’t be triggered by the views they contain.

If you believe she is lonely and you would like to try to help, you could be more proactive in terms of your own contact with her.

Dear Amy: Your question from “Anguished Aunt” got my attention. This aunt had discovered an unknown niece through DNA testing. The aunt’s brother was unaware that he had fathered this daughter 40 years ago.

Well, my niece found out that she has a male cousin that was a 99% match. They reached out to each other, and then to me.

I had dated his mom for a short while 34 years ago (until I found out she was

engaged), so we separated.

The mother never told anyone that I had fathered her child. My newfound son and I communicate often and see each other a few times each year. I told him that we could have as much — or as little — a relationship as he wanted.

I have two new granddaughters and a daughter-in-law who are a wonderful addition to our family. My wife and daughters love them.

We live in Minnesota (he doesn’t), but it turns out that he is a big Viking and Twins fan! Funny how that goes. I hope this aunt chooses to keep the relationship going.

— Grateful Dad

Dear Grateful: There is so much uncertainty contained in these connections. I appreciate your open attitude and the very happy outcome.

Dear Amy: I hated your response to “Looking for Love,” the older man who had a companionable relationship with his wife, but was frustrated by the lack of a sexual relationship.

There are many reasons women turn away from sex, and some of these are physical. Your response totally ignored the wife’s perspective.

— Disappointed

Dear Disappointed: I generally try to answer the question posed by the person who wrote to me. Their perspective, while biased, is all I have to go on.

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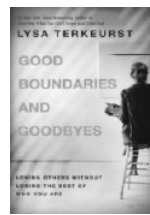
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‘You got everything?’

When a simple question is its own love language



Heidi Stevens
Balancing Act

My son had to be at school at 6:45 on a recent Saturday morning to get on a team bus for a tournament in the suburbs.

It was dark and cold and the parents all waited in our warm cars while our kids messed around on the sidewalk and gathered their gear and slowly filed toward the idling bus. And just as the team started to board, a mom popped out of her car and yelled in her son's direction, “You got everything?”

I didn't hear his response. I was too busy having a visceral, embarrassingly emotional response to her question inside my car.

Because “You got everything?” can, indeed, mean, “You got everything?” And maybe it did.

But I know it can also mean, “I love you.”

And, “Wait, let me ride the bus with you.”

And, “How did you get this old this fast?”

And, “I'll see you at the tournament.”

And, “I promise not to embarrass you.”

And, “Please don't break anything, please have fun, please be a good teammate, please win with humility or lose with grace or whatever your coach tells you to do, I'm honestly not sure at this age.”

And, “Please let the bus driver be safe.”

And, “Please stop growing. No, keep growing; it's a privilege and a gift to watch you grow.”

It can mean all the things that come rushing out of your heart — but never your mouth, certainly not in public, anyway — when your kid reaches an age you



“You got everything?” can mean all the things that come rushing out of your heart when your kid reaches a particular age. **DREAMSTIME**

find bewildering and magical and, frankly, a little out of the blue.

For me, this age has been 13.

One day you're buying Pokemon cards, and the next day you're buying cologne and they're taller than you are and their feet are bigger than yours and they hardly ever turn their heads to check if you watched them make that goal, score that run, hit that note, board that bus.

And you can't yell “I love you” in front of their friends, even though it was just yesterday (wasn't it?) that they would yell “I love you” in front of their friends and you would yell it back and their friends

wouldn't flinch because a bunch of them were doing the same thing.

So you find other ways to yell it. You cheer a little louder than is probably necessary or appropriate inside a suburban youth sports complex. You linger a little longer than you need to after drop-offs. You watch them make that goal, score that run, hit that note, board that bus — whether they're watching you watch them or not.

Because you realize that all the people who warned you how fast it would all go were exactly right, even though you doubted them and, actually, kind of loathed them for a few years there. Especially

the years when the time between an afternoon snack and bedtime lasted roughly 47 hours, and 46 of them were spent in tears — yours or a child's.

And you realize that of all the enemies — all the things you spend fearing and combating and mitigating and protecting against once this little person enters your life and completely takes over your heart — time is the sneakiest. It always wins.

And it's never guaranteed. Not another day of it. Not another minute.

It's a gift. It always has been, even when someone was in tears and bedtime was 47 more hours away. It always will be.

And we get to be intentional with it. And try not to squander it. Or overload it with meaningless tasks or mindless pursuits or people who mistreat us. And sometimes we fail. And sometimes we don't.

And sometimes this lesson about time — the one people (and coffee mugs, and Instagram posts, and Harry Chapin songs) have told you over and over — takes the shape of a teenager. Or a college graduation. Or a wedding. Or a first job. Or something less celebratory. Something sorrowful.

And sometimes it takes the shape of a mom, hopping out of her warm car into a chilly, dark morning to yell to her baby boy,

who is somehow — bewilderingly, magically — approaching 6 feet tall and starting to shave and boarding a bus with neither her assistance nor her company: “You got everything?”

Because all of the other words have to stay inside her heart. Yours too. Which is a perfectly good home for them to wait, biding their time, until it's OK to say them out loud again.

And it will be. Soon.

Heidi Stevens is a Tribune News Service columnist. You can reach her at heidik-stevens@gmail.com, find her on Twitter [@heidistevens13](https://twitter.com/heidistevens13) or join her Heidi Stevens' Balancing Act Facebook group.

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Joffrey Company Artists Alberto Velazquez and Victoria Jaiani in Anna Karenina. Photo by Cheryl Mann.

LIFE



Lanetta Haynes Turner, chief of staff for Toni Preckwinkle, leads a meeting on Jan. 24 about ongoing work on the Cook County Equity Fund. BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Spotlight on Lanetta Turner

Toni Preckwinkle’s chief of staff uses equity fund to uplift Black, brown communities

By Darcel Rockett | Chicago Tribune

Lanetta Haynes Turner gets choked up when she talks about family. Turner, 45, the chief of staff for Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, is emotional when recalling her childhood growing up in the Illinois foster care system.

“My mother was the type that would disappear ... so my grandmother, aunts and uncles would step in and keep us,” she said.

But her grandmother got too old to watch over her and her three younger siblings, then ages 6, 4, 3 and 2. “At the age of 6, I came home from school one day, and there was a social worker waiting for us,” Turner said. “We had a trash bag full of stuff. The four of us were loaded into a car. I remember we were all crying in the back seat.”

Turner said it was a blessing that all four of them got to stay together with their foster parent. Unfortunately, that parent was “extremely abusive,” she said. That abuse continued until she was an upper-classman in high school, she said. An investigation into the foster mother would get her license taken away and remove Turner’s three younger siblings from the foster mother’s care. Turner went on to live with a family she used to babysit for while she finished high school.

“From the age of 6, I’ve always been in an environment where it was about being very aware of my circumstances and the stigma,” Turner said.

Ever since, she has wanted to fight for those in similar scenarios and became an attorney to do so. She thought she was going to work on abuse and neglect cases for the public guardian’s office when she graduated from law school at Loyola University. But for the first several years of her legal career, she served as a litigator with the city of Chicago dealing with impounded cars and family law. Then someone asked her to step into the role of executive director of the Court Appointed Special Advocates of Cook County, a role she held for five years.

Turner made the transition from staff attorney to policy work and the public sector, and she said she hasn’t looked back. Her latest fight centers on the Cook County Equity Fund, a multimillion-dollar plan to address institutional and structural barriers to racial equity — operations, policies and practices — inside and outside local government.

Turner feels it’s her mission, as a lawyer and someone who was in the foster care system, to serve communities where disinvestment has run rampant. She is insistent on being an advocate for Black and brown communities where disparities are many.

“Where are the health disparities? Where are the educational disparities? Where’s the public safety concerns? That’s not all of Chicago. We know where it is,” Turner said. “Why not be intentional about bringing (resources) where they need to be — giving the basics, to have a level playing field. That’s what we’re

trying to create. For me, this (equity fund) is the future of government.”

Preckwinkle established the Cook County Equity Fund in 2020 as part of the county’s fiscal year 2021 budget. It’s guided by the “Policy Roadmap: Five-Year Strategic Plan for Offices under the President” and racial equity tool kits developed by “For Love of Country: A Path for the Federal Government to Advance Racial Equity, a Cook County Equity Fund Report,” released in April with an investment of \$50 million. The funds behind the initiative support programs and policies recommended by a task force of over two dozen organizations charged with transforming systems around justice, public safety, health, housing, economic opportunity, community development and social services.

Preckwinkle’s office released a progress report on the equity fund’s trajectory in December, laying out implementation steps and timelines for key objectives and activities in the areas of health, economic development, criminal justice, environmental sustainability, public infrastructure and good government.

“April 2022 was the culmination of the task force work since they started meeting virtually in 2021,” Turner said. “We released it in April and then we spent the balance of the year talking about how we are going to implement it.”

That work entails building a more resilient housing and shelter system for those experiencing homelessness in suburban Cook County, which includes creating an incentive fund to encourage landlords to rent to residents who may have a previous eviction on their record.

It includes establishing an Office of Behavioral Health and Wellness, and designing and implementing the Promise Guaranteed Income Pilot that began in December. The program will provide over 3,000 households with \$500 for 24 months to improve their economic mobility.

It also includes assessment and cleanup of contaminated and abandoned properties in disinvested communities and collaborating with the Regional Transit Authority and transit service boards to establish discounted transfers between different service agencies.

And it increases county investments in housing supports to create a Cook County reentry services network for the formerly incarcerated. The Cook County plan seeks to address gaps in resources, and help organizations build a more robust continuum of care for reentry services.

“Every year, we’re going to be providing updates ... adding to it through surplus (funds), grants and savings that we may have to reinvest back into communities to make them



Turner made the transition from staff attorney to policy work and the public sector, and she said she hasn’t looked back.

more equitable,” Turner said. “Some of the pieces of the equity fund have rolled out as we were building. ... A big win already is the guaranteed income pilot. That’s how you start closing the racial wealth gap.”

Turner said the equity fund is intended to be long term. Just as inequitable systems and barriers took years to erect, it will take years to fix them, she said. But the equity fund lays the foundation and speaks to the county’s intentions to work with those who are trying to engage with government, she said.

Of the over two dozen equity fund initiatives, what is top of mind for Turner is reforming the property tax system, reentry work, and developing an equity-centered grant-making strategy for grassroots BIPOC-led organizations to deliver services in marginalized communities.

“We’re trying to set aside funds to help them with technical assistance coaching, so they are stronger organizations and government can deliver stronger services and programs to those who need it,” she said.

Turner has been in the policy and government space for 18 years. She likes to fix things, think about what could be and hold people’s feet to the fire. She’s past talking about it, and all about being about it. While the city of Chicago is centering work in the equity space, Turner said there is not much overlap with the county’s equity plans. Yes, the issues are the same, but Turner said the city is focused on neighborhood-level work, and the county is addressing equity concerns from a systemic level.

“Government traditionally has been investigation, not innovation. There’s room for that. Compliance is important, but so is creating space where we can think outside of the box,” she said. “You’re spending two hours, taking three or four buses to get downtown to work? That’s ridiculous in a global city like Chicago and Cook County. And Harvey’s and Dixmoor’s water infrastructure, those are things that can’t be done alone, and we have to work with them and find the money from federal, state, wherever to fix those problems. That’s equity.”

Turner likens her job to that of an air-traffic controller. Her phone is always ringing, and she’s consistently occupied with bringing government, business and philanthropy together for public safety. For the last decade, she’s been at the table planning and being that bridge for collaboration, for the betterment of many.

Turner came into Cook County government leading the Justice Advisory Council, which coordinates criminal justice reform within the county. Preckwinkle said Turner has been a good manager and a thoughtful person. Preckwinkle credits Turner’s leadership for creating a framework and a map for sharing the American Rescue Plan Act funds in an equitable manner.

“Your staff makes or breaks you, and that begins with your chief of staff,” Preckwinkle said. “I’ve been blessed to have some great people who are willing to take on this challenge and I’m particularly grateful to Lanetta for her vision and hard work.”

Turner said she leads with compassion in her work because she understands what it’s like to not have much — as a foster child, she did not have the things others took for granted — and the stigma attached to that. Turner still sees it as her responsibility to make sure her siblings are OK and get through the day-to-day given the systems in place. It’s a responsibility she extends to all who live in Cook County.

“I do what I do, not just for me, but for my family,” Turner said. “The equity fund ... not everybody’s gonna read it. I just want to make sure that people understand the why. It’s the outcomes: Better schools, better communities, people not just saying that violence has been reduced, but feeling safe. People having options, being able to get on the train and know that you can get from point A to point B in a reliable, accurate, cost-effective commute. That’s the equity fund — trying to do better in those systems and connect those systems to get better services for the people who matter, who is us.”

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Boosting Chicago neighborhoods

\$5.5M grant aims to expand tourism in 12 underrepresented areas

By Laura Rodríguez Presa
Chicago Tribune

The South Side of Chicago is often overlooked, stigmatized or simply ignored, said Nedra Sims Fears, executive director of the Greater Chatham Initiative. But in the past year, Chatham's hidden gems and its unique culture have been uplifted, attracting visitors from all over the city.

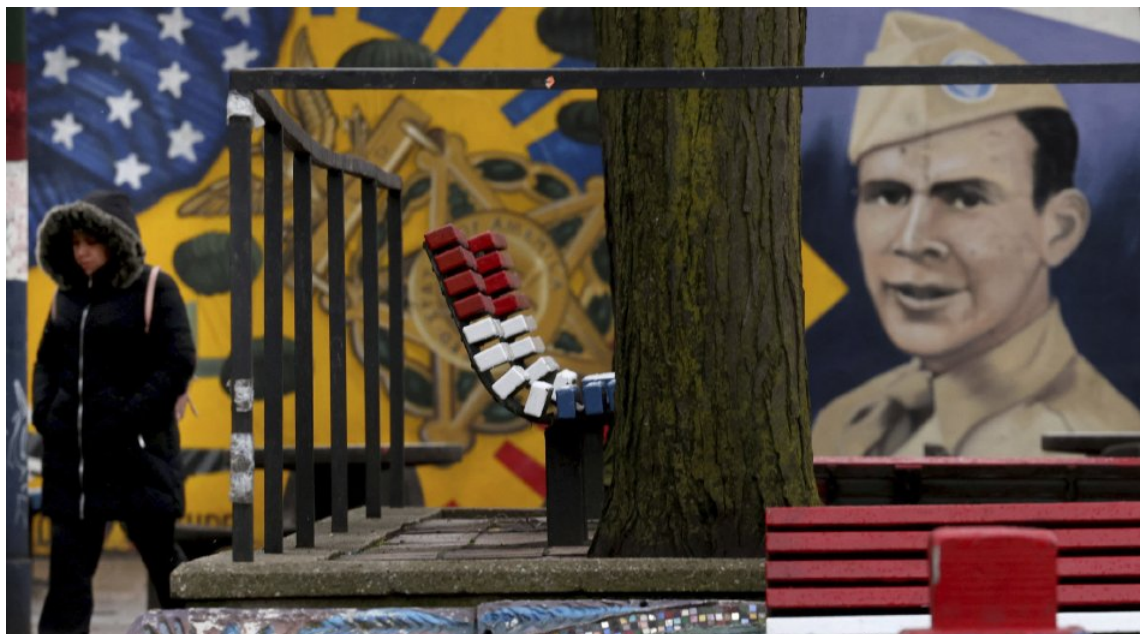
"Our goal is to let people know that we are a competitive neighborhood and it has been successful," Fears said. "It is one of the few Black neighborhoods where our population and homeownership went up in the last decade."

In Little Village, dubbed the Mexico of the Midwest, the Manuel Perez Jr. Memorial Plaza, where locals often hang out, was renovated last year with a fresh mural, seating and signage. Through the summer, local vendors hosted a market every Sunday, attracting new shoppers.

That is in part thanks to the Neighborhood Strategy Team of Choose Chicago, the city's official destination marketing organization. The Neighborhood Strategy Team launched in 2021 to invest in neighborhood tourism by providing resources and tools to community organizations from neighborhoods that are typically underserved but whose cultures are key to Chicago's rich diversity.

This year, Choose Chicago was awarded \$5.5 million more by the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events to strengthen and expand the program, adding 12 new community areas, making a total of 30 neighborhoods that will benefit from the efforts to promote tourism.

The program's new communities include Auburn Gresham, Austin, Back of the Yards, Englewood, Lincoln Park, Lincoln Square, New City, North Center, North Lawndale, Roseland, South Chicago and Hyde Park. The original neighborhoods in the program include Uptown, Bronzeville, Albany Park,



Manuel Perez Jr. Memorial Plaza, in Chicago's Little Village neighborhood, was renovated with seating, lights and signage. Choose Chicago provided funding for the renovation. **ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**



A statue of gospel singer Mahalia Jackson is illuminated by sunlight at the opening ceremony of Mahalia Jackson Court in September. **JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Humboldt Park, Pullman, Little Village, South Shore, Chinatown, West Ridge, West Town, Logan Square, Rogers Park, Pilsen, Chatham, Lakeview, Woodlawn, Belmont-Cragin and Beverly.

The grant, provided by the American Rescue Plan Act funds, will allow Choose Chicago to boost its comprehensive tourism marketing strategy, which positions Chicago and its neighborhoods as prime destinations for residents and visitors, said Rob Fojtik, vice president of neighborhood strategies. The program will

be the largest and most comprehensive such neighborhood program in the country, he said.

The funds help create an equity-based investment strategy that catalyzes a sustainable economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The culture and vibrancy of Chicago can be found beyond our traditional tourist locations," Mayor Lori Lightfoot said in a statement. "Each of our 77 unique neighborhoods is home to rich histories, world-class cuisine, and entertainment that tourists

should experience. I'm continually grateful for ARPA funding that allows us to continue our equitable economic recovery by supporting our neighborhoods and the local organizations who uplift them."

In Chatham, there are more new faces at the Mahalia Jackson Court at 1 E. 79th St., said Fears. She has seen a gradual increase in visitors, but the Greater Chatham Initiative also uses a tracking system that indicates visitors went from nearly 3,000 in 2021 to nearly 7,000 in 2022.

"We appreciate how Choose Chicago marketing has brought more visitors to Mahalia Jackson Court," Fears said. The program helped Sims' organization turn the vacant building into a plaza, provided photography and tools to create a website to promote it.

For Blanca Soto, the neighborhood program has not only helped beautify Little Village, it has also boosted community morale by focusing on and promoting its vibrant culture, rich Mexican cuisine, and its art, and shifted focus from the violence and crime that outsiders tend to hear about.

"I want to make sure that Little Village is on the map, that it is a destination spot for those who visit Chicago," Soto said. "Every neighborhood is unique, and this

gives them opportunity to showcase and highlight their beauty that they won't find in Lincoln Park or downtown."

Soto hopes that the expansion of the grant can continue to change the negative image of neighborhoods such as Back of the Yards and Englewood.

"Those neighborhoods are key to the richness and beauty of Chicago," Soto said.

Neighborhood partnerships have included sponsorship for local organizations' events and the Chicago Alfresco program that created outdoor dining areas. In Little Village, the program helped the Mexican Independence Parade make a comeback in September, Soto said.

Over the last two years, the Choose Chicago team conducted more than 20 listening sessions to identify community needs and provide solutions and resources that empower stakeholders in various neighborhoods.

"We really do look at it as a way to highlight the good and help change that narrative for sure," Fojtik said.

The funding will help with initiatives such as listening sessions and help content creators showcase things to do in each neighborhood. This includes working with local businesses and attractions.

There is also a neighborhood cleanup initiative that contracts with landscaping and street cleaning services.

Choose Chicago will expand its free professional food photography to help small businesses market themselves. It will also continue to install better signage for participating neighborhoods.

"Chicago's neighborhoods are key to our authenticity as a city for locals and visitors," said Rhonda McFarland, executive director of the Quad Communities Development Corporation in Bronzeville. "When done properly, neighborhood tourism can bring substantial benefits and add to the vibrancy of our neighborhoods."

Soto said that as the program expands, she hopes that one day there can be trolleys taking visitors from neighborhood to neighborhood.

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ASK THE PEDIATRICIAN

Dangers of underage drinking

By Dr. Wendy Hasson
American Academy of Pediatrics

With so many other issues affecting young people right now, teen alcohol use may not seem like that big of a deal. You might recall your own early experiences and figure that some drinking can be expected. But when we look at alcohol's effect on a child's developing brain, the risks become clearer.

It's helpful to realize that the human brain continues to grow and develop until age 25. Frequent alcohol use can have a negative impact on regions of the brain that handle learning, memory and speech, as well as visual and spatial thinking.

Alcohol's impact on the brain — not to mention its immediate effects on everyday functioning — may explain why kids who drink usually have serious difficulties in school. Young people who admit to binge drinking are four to six times more likely than nondrinkers to skip classes. High-schoolers who drink regularly are five times more likely to drop out. Drinking is related to 40% of all academic problems in college.

Because it changes the way people think and act, alcohol is also closely related to behaviors that can seriously harm your child or cause harm to others. For example, alcohol use in young people can increase their chances of engaging in unprotected sex, exposing them to sexually transmitted diseases and risks for unwanted pregnancies. Incidents of physical and sexual violence often involve young people who are under the influence of alcohol. Unintentional injury-related deaths, especially car accidents, frequently involve drunk drivers.



When we look at alcohol's effect on a child's developing brain, the risks become clearer.
DREAMSTIME

Young people who drink also face higher risks of depression and suicide. But there's good news. Kids care very much about what their parents think — and are much more open to talking about alcohol use than you might imagine. Research shows that parents are the No. 1 reason kids decide not to drink.

Here are suggestions for starting a meaningful and supportive conversation with your child:

- Start talking about alcohol with your child when they are around 9 years old. This gives you the opportunity to help shape your child's thoughts and actions around alcohol as they move toward adolescence.
- Bring the subject up in a relaxed, nonjudgmental way. Ask what thoughts they have about alcohol. Do their friends talk about it? Try to listen as much as you talk, especially with teens.
- Find the right moments. Times when your child is present, engaged, and not rushed are best.
- Consider sharing your own stories. Kids appreciate honesty, especially when you're talking about difficult subjects. Without overwhelming your child, you might touch on times when you saw alcohol hurt people.
- Normalize nonuse. Tell your teen often and repeatedly that it's perfectly normal not to drink. You

might acknowledge that national studies show most teens stay away from alcohol during high school.

■ Set clear expectations and guidelines based on age. Don't be afraid to state that young children should not drink. As your child approaches junior high and high school, set clear limits and be prepared for pushback.

■ Offer to pick them up, no questions asked. If kids find themselves in a situation where they or others are drinking, they should call you immediately.

Be calm and supportive and ask your pediatrician for support. Seek out specialized resources if you need them. Try not to overreact when your child tries alcohol, even if they get very drunk. You don't have to pretend you're not disappointed, but staying away from shame and blame will signal that your child can trust you when things go wrong.

Don't end the conversation when your child moves out or goes to college. Encourage them to come to you anytime they need perspective and support.

Dr. Wendy Hasson is double boarded in general pediatrics and pediatric critical care medicine. She is the medical director for the Pediatric ICU at Randall Children's Hospital in Portland, Oregon and a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Volunteer to organize if you don't like school's approach



Judith Martin
Miss Manners
Dear Miss Manners: My child's school is having a staff appreciation week, which isn't a bad idea for the efforts they put in and how they enhance our kids' lives.

What strikes me as extremely gauche, however, is that it's being organized and run by the school while asking parents to contribute as follows:

First day: Send kind words/thanks.

Second day: Send sugary treats.

Third day: Buy something from their wish lists.

Fourth day: Staff members get a special Mexican luncheon while parents cover classroom duties. (Keep in mind that students have been trying to get the quality of the school's food improved for months, while the staff claims there is no need. Students are sometimes not eating at all because of how bad they perceive the food to be.)

Fifth day: Send a teacher's favorite snacks and drinks to stock their fridge.

This seems like the kind of thing that parents should organize if they want to do it, not be pressured into it by the school. If the school administration wants to do it, they should fund it.

It comes across like, "Hey, aren't we great? Buy us stuff and tell us how great we are!" And then they send reminders EVERY DAY. Tacky.

Do teachers and school staff deserve nice things? Yep. But this is not the way to go about it, in my opinion.

Gentle reader: Agreed. No doubt, the school administration would love to have the parents step up, instead, and make up for the school's obvious lack of funding. So if you do not like the school's approach, Miss Manners suggests the way around it is to volunteer to be the parent organizer instead. Aren't you sorry you asked?

Dear Miss Manners: I work in a large medical center where colleagues frequently stop in the halls to converse.

My quandary arises when these conversations occur with one participant on one side of the hallway and the other across the hall, leaving those passing no choice but to walk between them as they talk.

Must I excuse myself? I suppose I could pause and wait for them to finish their discussion so as not to interrupt them, but this seems extreme in terms of passive-aggressiveness.

I confess that this often happens on my way into work, when I have not yet had any coffee and am inclined to grumpiness.

But I also feel that the chatting pair is forcing this quandary upon me by choosing to chat across the hallway. I suppose that is the crux of my disgruntlement: Their choice forces me to choose between rudeness and ridiculousness.

Are the conversation-holders entitled to an apology when I walk between them as they converse?

Am I absolved of feeling guilty if I decline to extend that courtesy?

Gentle reader: Could you have some coffee at home, and be not quite so easily thrown by your chatty colleagues?

Miss Manners is not defending them, but neither does she consider that they are committing a high crime. If you don't want to excuse yourself, she supposes you could plow ahead, calling "Coming through!"

But you are mistaken in thinking that "excuse me" is, in this case, an admission of fault on your part.

If you say it in an authoritative voice, "Excuse me!" sounds like a command, and should prompt your colleagues to murmur the apologetic version of the phrase.

Dear Miss Manners: I get numerous calls on my personal cellphone and often am not available to answer. If someone in my contact list calls me and I do not answer, should I call them back, even if they do not leave me a message asking me to do so?

Gentle reader: Not knowing who called or how you feel about speaking with them, Miss Manners cannot say if you should call them back, only that etiquette does not require that you do so.

Miss Manners is aware of the argument that this is inefficient. But she suspects that those making it are more concerned with the few seconds they will spend explaining themselves to your voicemail than with the time the recipient will lose deciding whether the call was pressing or of the I-was-in-the-car-and-had-time-to-kill variety.

To send a question to the Miss Manners team of Judith Martin, Nicholas Ivor Martin and Jacobina Martin, go to missmanners.com or write them c/o Universal Uclick, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106.

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TRAVEL



Designed by Rubush & Hunter, the architectural firm behind some of Indianapolis' most prestigious buildings, the 1927 flatiron building — where Madam C.J. Walker oversaw her cosmetics and hair care empire in the early 1900s — is now known as the Madam Walker Legacy Center and reopened in 2021 after a two-year, \$15 million renovation. **LORI RACKL/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

5 MIDWEST CITIES FULL OF BLACK HISTORY TO VISIT

By **Laurny Azu**
Chicago Tribune

Chicagoland is undeniably teeming with the stories and contributions of historic African Americans, from the legacy of the Bronzeville neighborhood to the DuSable Black History Museum and the Pullman National Monument.

But if you're looking to get out of town, it's just as easy to appreciate Black history in any number of Midwest destinations, many within driving distance for a weekend getaway to a nearby state. Add a sidecar of history on the Bourbon Trail, take in a show rooted in Black culture, and make some memories of your own along the way with a visit to one of these five Midwest cities steeped in Black history.

Brooklyn and East St. Louis, Illinois

Home to Miles Davis, the stages where Tina Turner first performed, musician Steamboat Willie's birthplace and Katherine Dunham's lasting legacy, East St. Louis is splashed across the pages of Black history and the bios of some of America's most influential cultural figures.

Dunham, a pioneering dancer and anthropologist who grew up in Chicago, settled in East St. Louis in the 1960s after bringing African and Afro-Caribbean dance to the world stage (and inspiring future dance icons such as Alvin Ailey and Eartha Kitt along the way). The Katherine Dunham Centers for Arts and Humanities (kdcah.org) houses artifacts from her global travels and work, but has struggled to attract enough donors in recent years. It offers community dance and art classes, and alumni and devotees of the Dunham technique have gone on to work with nearby institutions just across the Mississippi, such as The Black Rep theater (theblackrep.org) and the Center of Creative Arts (cocastl.org), whose spring dance repertoire is set for May 5-7.

Just a 10-minute drive away is Brooklyn, Illinois, one of the oldest Black incorporated towns in the United States. "Mother" Priscilla Baltimore is credited with founding the town with families of other free or formerly enslaved Black people from St. Louis in 1829. The local historical society recently built a marker to commemorate Brooklyn's origins as a freedom village, which also

became part of the Underground Railroad and home to the historic Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church. The Historical Society of Brooklyn, Illinois, hopes to add a memorial walkway dedicated to Priscilla Baltimore in 2023, and is seeking designation from the National Register of Historic Places to cement its place in history.

Indianapolis

Indiana's crown jewel of Black history might be the Madam Walker Legacy Center (madamwalkerlegacycenter.com), located in the building where Madam C.J. Walker oversaw her cosmetics and hair care empire, philanthropic efforts and cultural patronage. As the first self-made female millionaire in the United States, Walker was devoted to ensuring people from marginalized communities could access the arts. The 1927-built theater — a rare still-standing African-Art Deco building — has hosted the likes of Ella Fitzgerald, Nat King Cole and Patti LaBelle, and looks to continue Walker's mission.

The Walker Building is located along Indiana Avenue, which distinguished itself as an epicenter of Black business and arts in the early 20th century. But displacement and rapid expansion of the Indiana University campus starting in the 1950s drained the area of its Black residents and resources, although some have sought in recent years to reinvest in the neighborhood and revive its vibrant scene.

Today, Indiana Avenue is one of the city's cultural districts, connected by an 8-mile Indianapolis Cultural Trail. Indianapolis history buff Sampson Livingston hosts frequent Walk & Talk guided tours in the city (through2eyes.com), including one along Indiana Avenue that will take place Feb. 4.

If the timing is right, head to Freetown Village (freetown.org) for a craft workshop, stage performance or reenactment at the living history museum focused on African American life in post-Civil War settlements in Indiana.

Louisville, Kentucky

The state's well-trodden Bourbon Trail celebrates its iconic liquor with ample sampling, but there's a less-appreciated history getting more attention these days as well. The legacy of Nathan "Nearest" Green, who taught distilling techniques to

Jack Daniel himself, is commemorated in "The Unfiltered Truth: Black Americans in Bourbon," an exhibit at the Frazier Kentucky History Museum (fraziermuseum.org). The tours, offered on the third Saturday of each month, showcase historical Black figures in the development of bourbon.

For an adults-only treat on Thursdays and Fridays, the Evan Williams Bourbon Experience at Heaven Hill Distillery (heavenhilldistillery.com/ewb-experience.php) plays host to a speak-easy-style tasting session with an actor portraying Louisville bartender Tom Bullock, the first Black American to publish a cocktail cookbook in 1917.

And if the kids (and adult boxing fans) are in tow, Louisville is home to the award-winning Muhammad Ali Center (alicenter.org), which retells the boxer's life story in and outside the boxing ring, and seeks to inspire the next generation through the principles that guided the athlete and activist's life.

Kansas City, Missouri

Though the 8-hour drive might seem daunting (nonstop flights are available out of O'Hare and Midway, if that's preferable), Kansas City is an ideal destination for celebrating jazz and blues. Head to the 18th and Vine district, where you can walk through history at the American Jazz Museum (americanjazzmuseum.org) — including artifacts such as Louis Armstrong's trumpet — before taking in a jam session at its Blue Room and Gem Theater venues.

Tuck into some legendary no-frills barbecue at Arthur Bryant's (arthurbryantsbbq.com), which dates back to the 1920s. If you're traveling with sports fans, visit the nearby Negro Leagues Baseball Museum (nlbm.com), which celebrates Black baseball players and leagues before integration. And for a musical end to your night, head to the Mutual Musicians Foundation (facebook.com/MutualMusiciansFoundation), potentially the oldest jazz house in the world, which stays open until 5 a.m.

Detroit

Just over a four-hour drive from Chicago, almost every corner of Detroit is infused with Black history. Not to be missed is a selfie with The Fist, a monument to Detroit-raised boxer Joe Louis, and a



The American Jazz Museum, located in the historic 18th and Vine district in Kansas City, Missouri, celebrates all things jazz. The museum includes rare films of early jazz stars and exhibits on jazz giants, as well as historic recordings, posters, photos and interviews. **MARK TAYLOR**



Documents and artifacts related to Jack Daniel and Nearest Green at the Frazier Kentucky History Museum. **NATHAN MORGAN/THE NEW YORK TIMES**



The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit. **KATHY KIELISZEWSKI/SPECIAL TO THE SUN**

visit to the often-overlooked WGPR-TV Historical Society Museum (wgprmuseum.org) that commemorates the nation's first Black-owned and operated television station.

The Motown Museum (motownmuseum.org) is set to reopen for tours in mid-February after an expansion that includes a plaza with pop-up performances. The museum is located on the grounds of Motown Records, where music legends such as Diana Ross and the Supremes, Stevie Wonder and the Jackson 5 got their start.

Nearby, the longtime home of

Rosa Parks in the Wildemere Park neighborhood was designated on the National Register of Historic Places in 2021, but remains a private residence. You could stop by the Henry Ford Museum (thehenryford.org) to see the bus Parks rode on that fateful day, but also be sure to visit the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History (thewright.org), one of the largest African American history museums in the country. Two jazz-focused exhibits will be on display through February.

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Dublin offers Ireland’s best urban thrills



Rick Steves
Tribune Content Agency

While many big cities are notoriously cold and unfriendly, Ireland’s capital is an urban playground where people really consider strangers just “friends who’ve yet to meet.” And Dublin offers the best urban thrills in the Republic of Ireland. Here are a few of my favorite things to do in Ireland’s capital.

Trinity College welcomes visitors with campus tours. With a particularly erudite version of the Emerald Isle’s gift of gab, your guide explains how Ireland’s top university was started in 1592 by Queen Elizabeth I to establish a Protestant way of thinking about God. Originally the student body was limited to rich, Protestant males. Now everyone is welcome — even Catholic women. While the 45-minute tour will teach you about the architecture and history of the 42-acre college campus, it’s most enjoyable simply as a chance to hang out with a chatty insider.

Don’t leave Trinity without dropping into the library to see the precious Book of Kells. Written on baby calfskin by monks in the ninth century, this enthusiastically decorated copy of the four Gospels is arguably the finest piece of art from what is generally called the Dark Ages.

Ireland’s national struggle and its great heroes are still within living memory. And the Kilmainham Gaol is a pilgrimage for anyone interested in Irish independence. The British used Kilmainham to house political prisoners. Many of Ireland’s George Washingtons and



Many of those who fought for Irish independence were held or executed in Kilmainham Gaol. **PAT O’CONNOR/RICK STEVES’ EUROPE**

Nathan Hales — patriots who wished they had more than one life to give to their national cause — were held or executed here.

It’s compelling to tour the cells and execution sites, hearing tales of terrible colonialism and heroic patriotism alongside Irish school kids who know all the names. Don’t miss the dimly lit hall off the second floor displaying the stirring last letters patriots sent to loved ones hours before facing the firing squad.

Ireland’s struggle against British rule involved the entire society — even sports, as you’ll learn at the Gaelic Athletic Association Museum. The GAA was founded in 1884 as an expression of an Irish cultural awakening. While created to foster the development of Gaelic sports — specifically Irish foot-

ball and hurling (and to discourage English sports such as cricket and rugby) — it was political to the core. The GAA museum, at Croke Park Stadium, offers a high-tech, interactive introduction to Ireland’s favorite games. Relive the greatest moments in hurling and Irish football history. Then give this sport a whirl. Pick up a stick and a ball and actually try a little hurling.

My family and I once went to a game at Dublin’s Croke Park with 50,000 Irish football fans. The sport is fast and rugged — like airborne hockey with no injury timeouts. The rules are like soccer, but you can run with the ball as long as you bounce or kick it every three steps. Each fan pays 30 euros (about \$40) for a ticket. I was talking to my Irish

friend, telling him we went to the Abbey Theater the night before to see a play by Oscar Wilde. He asked me the cost, and I told him 30 euros. He said to his wife, “Imagine paying 30 euros to see a play!” I reminded him that, to a playgoer, spending 30 euros to see this football game would be just as strange.

Save time in Dublin for strolling down Grafton Street, the city’s liveliest pedestrian shopping mall. A delightful 10-minute walk past street musicians takes you from Trinity College to St. Stephen’s Green (and makes you wonder why American merchants are so terrified of a car-free street). Walking by a buxom statue of “sweet” Molly Malone (known by locals as “the tart with the cart”), you’ll pass venerable department stores and a shopping

emporium that tastefully fills a converted Georgian mansion. For fun, gather a pile of coins and walk the street, putting each human statue-mime into action with a donation. Stop at a cafe somewhere along the street for coffee with a second-floor view of the action.

Except for the beans at breakfast ... forget “eating Irish” in Dublin. International cuisine is the local cuisine. I was at a multinational food court and it was confusing: Chinese were cooking Mexican, Poles were running the Old Time American diner, a Spaniard was serving sushi and Irish were cooking Thai in a wok. Save your craving for pub grub for the small towns.

Whether in its pubs, its ancient past, its struggle for independence or its

bustling streets, Dublin is the capital of a nation with a rich history and an irrepressible spirit.

Rick Steves (www.ricksteves.com) writes European guidebooks, hosts travel shows on public TV and radio, and organizes European tours. This column revisits some of Rick’s favorite places over the past two decades. You can email Rick at rick@ricksteves.com and follow his blog on Facebook.

GEOQUIZ ANSWER

Toronto is the most populous. With a population of about 2.6 million, it easily outdistances **Montreal**, which has about 1.6 million residents, and **Calgary** with 1.02 million.

CELEBRITY TRAVEL

Hensler learned importance of travel

By Jae-Ha Kim
Tribune Content Agency

When Lexi Hensler created HUGZ (give hugz.co/), it was with the intent to provide comfort for those suffering from depression. As someone who was bullied as a child, she knows how difficult it could be to feel alone. A portion of her line of weighted stuffed animals benefits nonprofit organizations that concentrate on mental health initiatives. Now 25, the Los Angeles-based entrepreneur and content creator has made it her mission to live each day to the fullest. She chronicles her life and adventures on Instagram (www.instagram.com/lexihensler/).

Q: You have a bucket list with 50 items. How many have you completed?

A: Over 25, which has absolutely blown me away! I have skydived out of a plane as well as a hot air balloon, swam with sharks many times, flew a helicopter, slept in a glass igloo in northern Finland, met the beautiful native Sami people and their reindeer. I stayed in an underwater hotel in the Maldives. My advice to anyone would be to not need a near-death experience to start their bucket list and to make the most of every day.

Q: What is your favorite vacation destination?

A: Maldives! From Los Angeles, it takes about 25 hours to get there, but it is well worth it. I am a self-proclaimed workaholic, so I love taking a vacation somewhere where I can fully relax and unwind. The Maldives hit every high mark for me. It has some of the most beautiful beaches I’ve ever seen. The sunsets are next level. The Maldivians take such great care of the land and oceans as well. I got to snorkel in a thriving



Entrepreneur and content creator Lexi Hensler considers Bermuda an underrated vacation spot. **ANDRE NGUYEN**

coral reef and see types of fish that I had never seen before. It is a very relaxing place and pretty much all the activities are water-based.

Q: What untapped destination should people know about?

A: I am absolutely obsessed with Bermuda, which is just a short two-hour flight from the East Coast. Growing up, I had heard about the Bermuda Triangle and did not think that I could ever travel there. In 2021, I was invited on a business trip to Bermuda. I have to admit that I was a little leery of flying right into the Bermuda Triangle, but I am so glad that I made the trip. It is much less touristy than other places, like the Bahamas.

Q: What’s the most important thing you’ve learned from your travels?

A: It may sound ironic, but through traveling I’ve learned how important it is to travel. When you travel, you learn so much about other cultures, traditions and ways of life. In some countries, they highly encourage their people to travel and find the best ideas and bring them back to implement into their own country. I’ve been

blessed to meet so many wonderful people from across the world, who have shared their culture with me and helped me grow as a person.

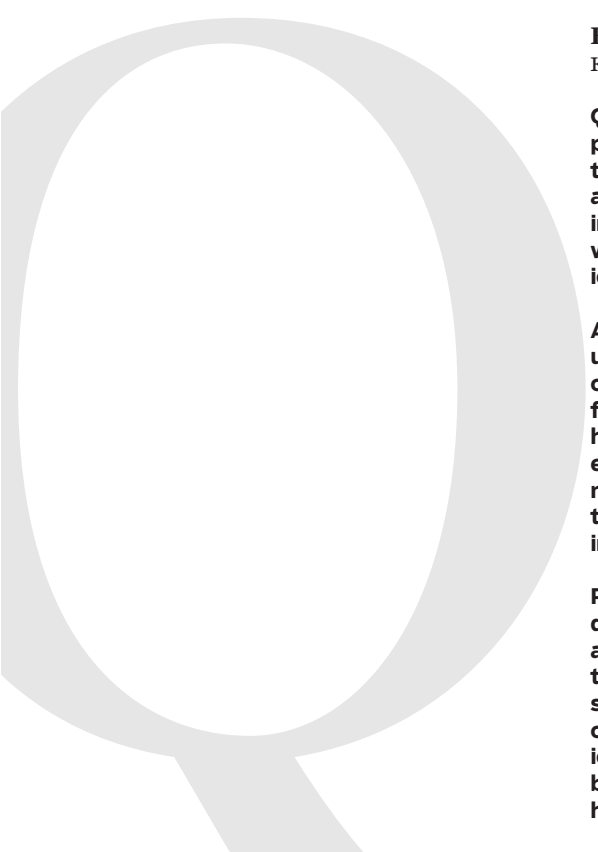
Q: What kind of research do you do before you go away on a trip?

A: Before I leave for an international trip, I always start by researching the country that I will be visiting. I want to be as respectful as possible to a country’s traditions and customs. In addition, it is important to look up any visa requirements, recommended vaccinations, currency information, as well as the contact information for the U.S. Embassy. I also go online to the State Department’s website to obtain more information on the place that I intend to visit, as well as register my trip with the State Department in case of emergency. I like to map out the location of my hotel to the various activities. Through research, I like to look up the must-see spots and food places. However, I have found that the best way to find a bite to eat is by asking a local for their recommendations.

For more from the reporter, visit www.jaehakim.com.

TRAVEL TROUBLESHOOTER

With hurricane on the way, are tickets now worthless?



By Christopher Elliott
King Features Syndicate

Q: I used my U.S. Bank Visa card points to buy three economy tickets on American Airlines to attend a destination wedding in the Dominican Republic. The wedding was relocated to Mexico because of a hurricane.

I’ve communicated with American Airlines, but it is unwilling to reschedule us since our departure date does not fall within their travel alert. We have basic economy class tickets, which can’t be changed. We now need to pay for three more tickets to attend the wedding in Mexico.

I have asked the U.S. Bank Rewards Center what they can do for me about this situation, and they said the only option is to contact American Airlines to see if they would consider other options. And when I ask American Airlines, they just refer me back to U.S. Bank Visa. Can you help?

— Char Collins, Minneapolis

A: It looks like you’re stuck between your bank, your airline and a hurricane. Not a good place to be!

Your destination wedding was moved from the Dominican Republic to Cancun, Mexico, after a hurricane took aim at the island. That’s one of the risks of traveling to the Caribbean during hurricane season. It looks like you had travel insurance — good call — but it wouldn’t cover you because the storm wasn’t imminent.

You already paid for three tickets using your points via U.S. Bank Visa. Typically, that’s a one-way transaction — you can’t get the points refunded to your account. It looks like American Airlines had authorized flight ticket changes between Sept. 17 and Sept. 25, but the wedding was happening later that month.

American Airlines should have seen the problem and made an exception to its refund rules. And I think it would have, if you had complained to the right person. Unfortunately, the folks at American’s customer service department could only repeat their policy, which is what they’re trained to do. Escalating this to a higher level, with one of the American Airlines executive contacts I publish on my consumer advocacy site, Elliott.org, might have helped. A brief, polite email might have allowed you to use your flight credit for the rescheduled wedding in Mexico.

Your case highlights the risks of using credit card miles to book a flight. When you have another party involved (your bank or credit card company),

you are often at the mercy of its policies in addition to the airline rules. And you may also find that your ticket comes with extra restrictions that could render it useless if you need to make a change.

I contacted American Airlines on your behalf. A manager reviewed your problem and agreed to refund \$582 as trip credit, which you can use to pay for flights to the new wedding location in Mexico.

Christopher Elliott is the chief advocacy officer of Elliott Advocacy, a nonprofit organization that helps consumers resolve their problems. Elliott’s latest book is “How To Be The World’s Smartest Traveler” (National Geographic). Contact him at elliott.org/help or chris@elliott.org.

Designer Thom Browne bests Adidas in court battle of stripes

By Larry Neumeister and Jocelyn Noveck
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Smiling, fashion designer Thom Browne emerged from a New York courthouse Jan. 12 victorious over sportswear giant Adidas in a grand battle over signature stripes. Browne told The Associated Press that he hopes the preservation of his striped designs on luxury athletic clothing and accessories inspires others whose work is challenged by larger clothing producers.

“It was important to fight and tell my story,” Browne said after a Manhattan federal court jury sided with him. Adidas had claimed that the striped designs used by Thom Browne Inc. were too similar to its own three stripes.

“And I think it’s more important and bigger than me, because I think I was fighting for every designer that creates something and has a bigger company come after them later,” he said.

Adidas indicated in a statement that their fight might go on.

“We are disappointed with the verdict and will continue to vigilantly enforce our intellectual property, including filing any appropriate appeals,” Rich Efrus, an Adidas spokesperson, wrote in an email.

Browne, a highly creative designer known for his theatrical runway shows, began selling clothing in 2001 at a boutique in Manhattan’s West Village. He has since become hugely successful, especially after a 2018 deal with luxury brand Zegna.

Adidas sued Browne in June 2021, saying his “Four-Bar Signature” — along with other products featuring parallel stripes



Fashion designer Thom Browne, center, waits Jan. 9 outside Manhattan federal court in New York. YUKI IWAMURA/AP

on activewear — infringed on its own well-known trademark.

The two-week trial concluded when the eight-person jury returned its verdict in less than two hours. Browne’s courtroom supporters erupted in joy before U.S. District Judge Jed Rakoff scolded them for violating courtroom decorum. Supporters later spilled into the hallway, some celebrating with hugs and tears.

The dispute goes back years. In 2007, Adidas complained that Browne was using a three-stripe design too similar to theirs on a jacket. Browne agreed to stop using it and shifted to a four-stripe design. For years, Adidas did not argue with that — but as Browne became more prominent after the 2018 sale, he began expanding further into activewear and the sportswear giant took notice. Adidas argued in its lawsuit that Browne’s stripes could confuse customers. Browne, in turn, has argued that the two companies are not direct competitors and don’t serve the same market. A pair of women’s compression tights on Browne’s website costs \$725, for example. A pair of Adidas leggings is well under \$100 on that company’s site.

Jeff Trexler, a faculty member at the Fashion Law Institute at Ford-

ham Law School, said the trademark landscape has become more nuanced in a shifting marketplace where companies expand regularly into new categories — in both content and price — and collaborate on special lines with others. More and more, he said, companies aren’t staying in the lanes they began in.

“It’s like in ‘Ghostbusters’ where you know if you cross the streams, everything will blow up,” Trexler said.

As long as Browne put the stripes “on a man’s sport coat and his narrow luxury goods, maybe the occasional pair of sweatpants,” Trexler said, there wasn’t a crossing of the streams. But as he expanded more into activewear, the streams crossed.

Browne, a former competitive swimmer, testified during the trial, noting the importance of sports in his life and how it carried through to his career.

“So it’s very authentic to who I am as a person,” he said.

Trexler noted that Browne’s lawyers had successfully convinced jurors that Browne was an underdog.

“In short, Thom Browne’s counsel got the jury to see this case as The People vs. The Corporation, and populism won,” he said after the verdict.

Buying makeup even in tough times



Ellen Warren
Answer Angel

Dear Answer Angel Ellen: I seriously want to know why so many women have SO much makeup. I have friends and relatives who practically hoard makeup. One, who rarely wears lipstick, had 60 tubes in her drawer. I know some who have makeup suitcases to carry a ton of accouterments on trips! My sister has about 40 eye shadows, 20 or so eyeliners and mascaras and a huge pile of blushes and lipsticks. Also, a jumble of facial creams and foundations. Yet, she looks exactly the same every single day. I have one eye shadow palette of six colors, two pencil liners and a mascara. They fit in my purse! Every year or so, I take a trip to Ulta to acquire an updated palette based on professional advice. With a six-to-eight-slot palette you can change up your look for every situation. But, I am considered the weirdo in this? LOL.
— Michele B.

Dear Michele: I don’t get it either. I too have friends whose makeup collection is astonishing. In tough economic times, when many retailers report declining sales, beauty items are the exception, with big chains reporting strong sales. The “lipstick index” theory holds that when consumers are cutting back on discretionary items, they like to indulge in small luxuries. I stick with a half-dozen makeup products and call it good. But if it makes your sister happy — or anyone, for that matter — I don’t see the harm in collecting makeup like others collect. I don’t know, bulldog figurines?



In tough economic times, when many retailers report declining sales, beauty items are the exception, writes Answer Angel Ellen Warren. DREAMSTIME

Dear Answer Angel Ellen: Having never been a fashionista, and now retired from work outside my home, I tend to wear my clothes until they fall apart. At that point, they are definitely not nice enough to donate to good causes like Goodwill or Salvation Army, so what am I to do with them? There are only so many household rags I can use. It seems wrong to put these worn items in the trash, or at least environmentally irresponsible. Do you have any suggestions?
— Gillean W.

Dear Gillean: Thank you for asking that question, which is an important one. And a complicated one. For a thorough answer I went to The New York Times-owned Wirecutter (wirecutter.com), an independent product review site that does research for consumers on a huge range of products — and issues, like clothing and textile recycling.

In a comprehensive article titled “How to Responsibly Donate and Repurpose Your Castoffs,” I found a couple of vetted places that could work for you. For Days (fordays.com), a recyclable clothing company, will accept any clean clothes or textiles but your good deed will cost you. For \$20, they’ll send you a “Take Back Bag” that holds 15 pounds of your castoffs (free ship-

ping). TerraCycle (shop.terracycle.com) lists many companies that will recycle the product containers they sell (like toothpaste and pens) and also sells “Zero Waste Boxes” — \$81 and up — to fill and send back (free shipping).

Some clothing companies also recycle clothes, but what they do with them is sometimes murky. Maybe easier (and certainly cheaper) is to talk to local animal shelters about whether they need cloth for animal bedding.

Reader Rant
Michelle S. writes, “PLEASE, PLEASE address this! WHY ARE ARMHOLES soooo weirdly cut?? I once spent \$75 on a shirt with bizarre armholes, then had to pay to have them fixed. Just because you’re L or XL or bigger, you don’t necessarily have the arms of a lumberjack. Bigger women have busts and hips and bellies. We can’t wear a shirt made like a tube! Please tell these makers to use actual tailors and measure bigger people. Don’t just measure one ‘perfect’ person and cut everything wrong for everyone else.”

Send your questions, rants, tips, favorite finds — on style, shopping, makeup, fashion and beauty — to answerangezellen@gmail.com.

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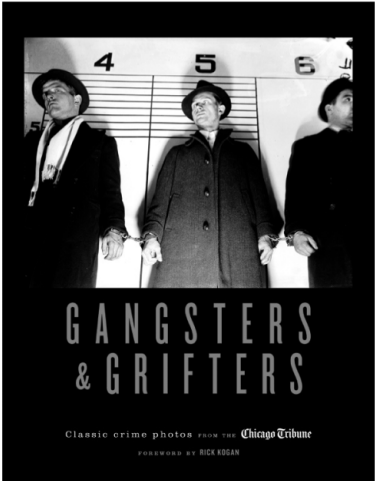
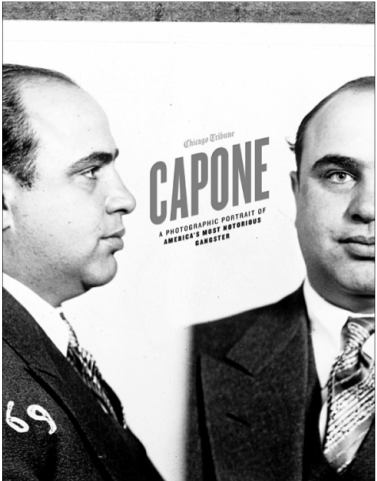
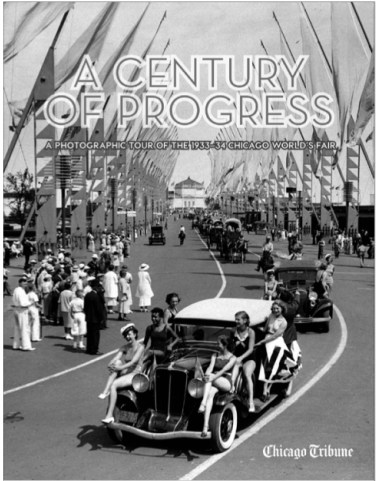
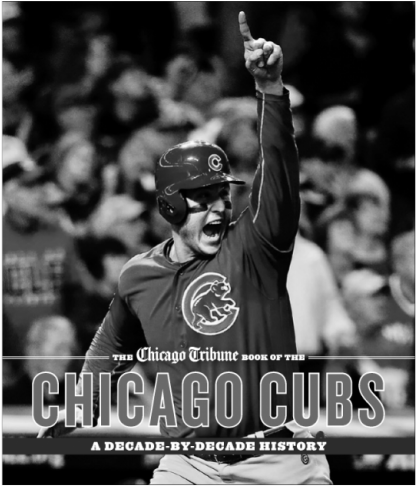
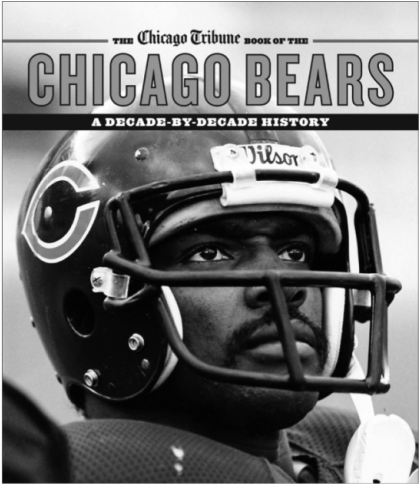
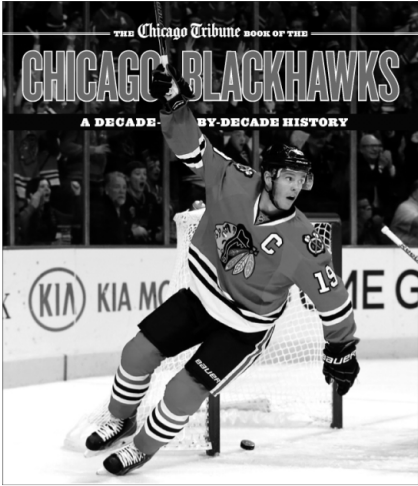
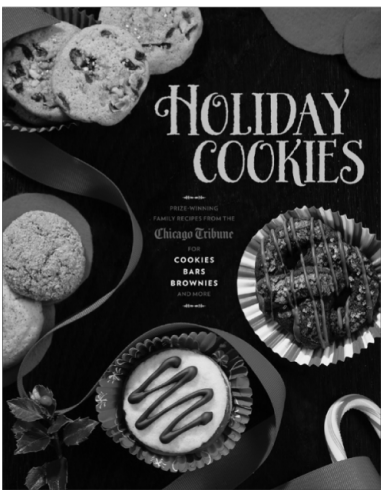
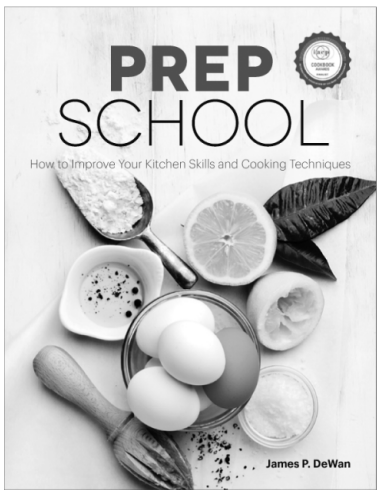
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REAL ESTATE



Tye Williams, right, a real estate agent, shows clients a house Jan. 4 in Raleigh, North Carolina. **KENNEDI CARTER/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

Selling houses while Black

White real estate agents making almost three times more than Black agents, according to data

By Colette Coleman | The New York Times

Tye Williams feels the heat. It's 95 degrees out, and the North Carolina sun is beating like a drum. He's in a full suit and tie and thinking about the tasks ahead. When he gets to the home he's showing, will he arouse suspicion because he has trouble opening the lockbox? Will neighbors call the cops when they see him circling the property and peeping in its crawl spaces? Or will his extremely professional — and very warm — attire protect him? As a Black real estate agent, "I'm always sure I have my license ready," he said.

Black agents say thoughts like these often run through their heads when they are out showing houses to their clients.

Despite groundbreakers like Philip A. Payton Jr., whose Afro-American Realty transformed New York's Harlem neighborhood into an international center of Black culture in the early 20th century, a history of racism in the real estate industry has shut Black people out and discouraged them from becoming agents. Although the National Association of Realtors permitted Black people to join and to access its benefits in 1961 when the organization officially ended the exclusion of Black agents, the group still lobbied against the 1968 Fair Housing Act, a law to end housing discrimination.

Today, about 6% of real estate agents and brokers in the United States are Black, although 14% of

Americans are Black. White real estate agents make almost three times as much as their Black peers, according to the National Association of Realtors. To make it in the industry, Black agents say they are taking precautions and making concessions, including changing their names or omitting their photos from promotional materials to hide their racial identities.

The discrimination they face can be life-threatening: In August 2021, police officers in Michigan handcuffed and pointed guns at Eric Brown, a Black real estate

Turn to Agents, Page 6

ELITE STREET

Former Bears president Phillips lists Libertyville home

By Bob Goldsborough
For Chicago Tribune

Former Chicago Bears President and CEO Ted Phillips on Jan. 10 placed his four-bedroom, 3,860-square-foot house in Libertyville on the market for \$1.19 million — and he already has found a buyer.

Phillips, 65, spent decades with the Bears organization, starting in the team's finance department and becoming president and CEO in 1999. He retired after the 2022 season.

Now, Phillips is moving on from his longtime home in Libertyville, which he bought in 2008 for \$900,000. Built in 2007, the home has 4 1/2 bathrooms, a new

mahogany front door, hardwood floors, 8-inch crown moldings and an updated kitchen with new quartz countertops, a kitchen island with a prep sink and newer stainless steel Viking and JennAir appliances. Other features include a family room with a stone fireplace, a formal dining room, a library with custom built-in shelving, a finished basement with 9-foot-high ceilings and a media or game room, and a primary bedroom suite with a second stone fireplace and a walk-in closet.

Phillips placed the home for sale on Jan. 10, and it went under contract to sell just five days later.

Listing agent Elizabeth Bryant

declined to comment on the listing.

The house had a \$24,267 property tax bill in the 2021 tax year.

Soccer Federation lists adjoining South Loop mansions for a combined \$4.2M: The U.S. Soccer Federation has listed two adjacent South Loop mansions that it long has owned and used as its headquarters for a combined amount of \$4.2 million, with one of them — the historic and French Chateau-esque 14,734-square-foot William W. Kimball House — available for \$2.3 million.

Turn to Elite, Page 5



The U.S. Soccer Federation has listed adjoining South Loop mansions that it has used for its headquarters for a combined \$4.2 million. **MELANIE GIGLIO**

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REAL ESTATE MATTERS

Parents worry gifted funds could become marital asset

By Ilyce Glink and Samuel J. Tamkin
Tribune Content Agency

Q: We gave our daughter \$30,000 for a down payment so she could buy a house. She's married. If she dies or divorces, we would like this money to come back to us instead of becoming a marital asset. How should we do this?

A: Well, interestingly, if she's closed on her home and she's married, the funds you gave her may already be part of her marital assets. We understand your interest in keeping the funds you gave your daughter for the purchase of her home separate. And, we can understand why you'd want that money to return to you in the event of her death or divorce.

However, the time to plan for that was at the time you gave her the money. Many parents want to assist their children when they purchase a home. Home prices have risen dramatically in much of the country over the past few years and most young people have trouble scraping together the down payment. This is part of the reason why the average age of a first-time buyer is now 36, according to the National Association of Realtors.

When your daughter purchased her home, you likely gave her the money around the time of the purchase. We suspect your daughter's lender required you and your spouse to sign a letter indicating that the funds were a gift to her and you were not seeking repayment. Providing what's known as a "gift letter" is standard practice when a borrower (your daughter) receives funds from another person to use in the down payment of a home.

The lender wants to understand what debts and assets the borrower has before lending the money and if you didn't "gift" the funds to your daughter, the funds would have shown up as debt she owes and would have limited the amount of money she and her husband could borrow for the home.

If your daughter purchased her home with her husband, we think that the funds have become commingled between them. Then, they'd be considered a marital asset. If, however, your daughter purchased the home



DREAMSTIME

before she got married, then it's possible that the home and the money she put down to purchase the home would be considered assets she had prior to marriage.

You and your daughter should sit down and talk about this gift and what your hopes (or expectations) would be in the case of divorce or death. As an aside, be prepared for this conversation to go poorly. If your daughter feels she is in a good marriage and you start talking about what will happen in case of a possible divorce, she may feel you no longer fully support her or her choices. She may also worry that your "gift" had some pretty

strong strings attached to it. Your request might get more complicated if your daughter and son-in-law have kids. Your request to be repaid may impact your grandchildren.

If she agrees to your request, set up an appointment with an estate attorney to think through your options. While you and your spouse are interested in protecting your \$30,000, this might be a good time to think about your estate plan and your daughter's estate plan.

One option is to get the home she purchased put into a trust. If she and her husband agree (assuming they co-own the prop-

erty), the trust document could provide that before the home is sold or the property is transferred to your daughter's husband, you and your spouse would be repaid the \$30,000 you provided for the down payment.

The estate attorney may have other estate planning suggestions for you, and your daughter as well. Some of the rules regarding marital property may differ from state to state so it would be smart to hire someone who has knowledge of the state in which your daughter and the property are located.

Of course, if your daughter has the cash on hand, she could repay you that money now or over time.

In turn, especially if you don't expect to need the money to pay your own expenses in retirement, you can put that money in an account for the benefit of your grandkids or even in a college savings account.

There are a number of ways to frame what by all accounts could be an extremely difficult conversation. A trusted financial adviser or estate planner should be able to help.

Ilyce Glink is the CEO of Best Money Moves and Samuel J. Tamkin is a real estate attorney. Contact them through the website ThinkGlink.com.

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SAVINGS UPDATE

How high will the Fed take rates in 2023?
By Sabrina Karl

The Federal Reserve's first 2023 rate-setting meeting is coming up, and after 2022's historically fast rate increases, all eyes are on what they'll do this year. Will rates move higher still?

First, a recent history primer. At the pandemic's outset, the Fed dramatically dropped the federal funds rate to zero over the course of two emergency meetings, aiming to prevent a Covid-triggered financial crisis.

The federal funds rate is the interest rate that banks charge each other for overnight loans of their reserves, and where it has the biggest consumer impact is in deposit rates (savings, money market, and CD accounts) and short-term debt, like credit card rates. The federal funds rate does not directly influence mortgage rates, though there is some ripple effect.

Last March, the Fed began building the federal funds rate back up. They started with a quarter point hike, but as the

threat of inflation became stronger, they ramped up their next hike to 50 basis points, and then followed that with four hikes of 75 basis points, followed by another 50-point hike in December.

As a result, we've witnessed the fastest rise in the fed rate in more than 40 years, with an increase of 4.25% over just 10 months. But where will they go from here?

While there is no crystal ball for predicting the Fed (they make each decision based on the latest economic data), it's strongly expected that 2023 will see minor additional movement upwards, but that 2022's fireworks are behind us.

Specifically, market forecasters currently predict we'll see a mild quarter-point increase on February 1 and another quarter point March 22, followed by a period of holding steady. After that, some predict the Fed will start lowering rates in late 2023, though rate predictions that far out are less reliable.

Rate Criteria: The rates and annual percentage rate (APR) are effective as of 01/23/23. All rates, fees and other information are subject to change without notice. RateSeeker, LLC. does not guarantee the accuracy of the information appearing above or the availability of rates and fees in this table. The institutions appearing in this table pay a fee to appear in this table. Annual percentage rates (APRs) are based on fully indexed rates for adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs). The APR on your specific loan may differ from the sample used. All rates are quoted on a minimum FICO score of 740. Conventional loans are based on loan amounts of \$165,000. Jumbo loans are based on loan amounts of \$647,200. Lock Days: 30-60. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Payments do not include amounts for taxes and insurance. The APR may increase after consummation and may vary. FHA Mortgages include both UFMP and MIP fees based on a loan amount of \$165,000 with 5% down payment. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Fees reflect charges relative to the APR. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. VA Mortgages include funding fees based on a loan amount of \$165,000 with 5% down payment. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. "Call for Rates" means actual rates were not available at press time. To access the NMLS Consumer Access website, please visit www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org. To appear in this table, call 773-320-8492.

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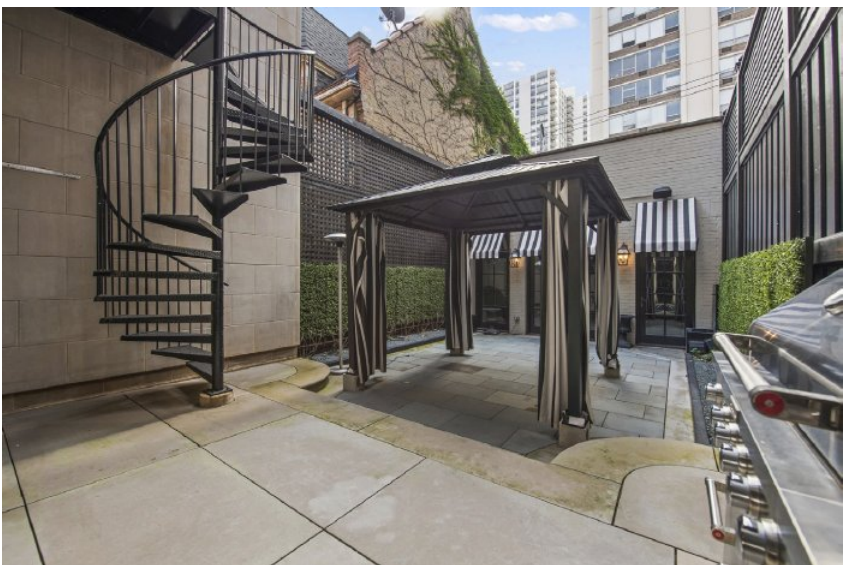


MATTHEW MANSUETO PHOTOS

HOME OF THE WEEK

Gold Coast 4-bedroom home with marble flooring: \$4.2M

Address: 1502 N. Dearborn Parkway, Chicago
Price: \$4,200,000
Listed: Nov. 18, 2022
This four-bedroom home has four full bathrooms, two half baths, marble flooring and an elevator. The kitchen features marble countertops, hardwood flooring and an island. The top-floor primary bedroom suite has double walk-in closets, a dressing room area, hardwood floors and a full bathroom. Courtyard space between the house and the two-car garage completes this home.
Agent: Meredith Beebe, Jameson Sotheby's International Realty, 630-779-9113



**Some listing photos are "virtually staged," meaning they have been digitally altered to represent different furnishing or decorating options.*

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Changing the home appraisal industry

By Debra Kamin
The New York Times

The home appraisal industry is overwhelmingly white, male and aging; the Bureau of Labor Statistics says that of the 75,000 appraisers in the United States, 97% are white, and other surveys show that nearly three-quarters are both male and older than 45.

This lack of representation, Black real estate professionals say, is a glaring problem, contributing to a persistent, widespread practice in the home appraisal industry to give higher values to homes when the occupants are white, and devalue them if the owners are Black.

“The issue of discriminatory appraisals is a major challenge in our community,” said Lydia Pope, president of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, an advocacy organization for Black professionals in the industry.

The simplest solution, Pope said, is recruiting more Black appraisers, and particularly Black women. The New York Times spoke with three of them about racism, representation and cautious optimism in the industry. The responses have been lightly edited for clarity.

Jillian White

Jillian White, 41, has been a certified appraiser for 20 years. She estimates that of 75,000 appraisers in the United States, she’s one of about 300 Black women actively working in the industry. Part of the issue is the appraisal industry’s training structure: In addition to the cost of education, most states also require aspiring appraisers to find a mentor to spend hundreds of hours or more



Ayako Marsh, who has been an appraiser for 22 years, holds keys in Washington. GREG KAHN/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2022

training them. For Black people — and particularly Black women — looking to enter the profession, the lack of mentors within their communities is often a dead end.

White said she is driven to serve as an adviser for young women eager to enter the industry. She recently launched her own consultancy to help homeowners understand their rights if they feel their home was appraised unfairly.

My new venture is a combination of consulting, educating and speaking. It’s about putting out content that educates the homeowner on what to do if you get an appraisal back and it is low and you think it is due to bias or any other reason.

Ayako Marsh

Ayako Marsh, 54, lives in Baltimore and has been an appraiser for 22 years. She was previously president of the Appraisal Institute’s Washington, D.C., chapter. To attract more Black appraisers, she said, the profession needs to be marketed as a family business that can be passed down from generation to generation.

What we’re finding is that when we try to introduce the industry to young Black people, they know nothing about it. So we’re trying to catch them while they’re in college. There are a lot of programs developing around the country to bring new appraisers into the industry. But on the flip side, it’s going to be

another two, three or even five years before they’re working in the market.

There needs to be mandatory bias training within the appraisal industry. And there has to be a more active role by lenders in banks to develop an appraisal bias review process.

Yetunde Oshodi

In New York state, the New York Mortgage Coalition is covering the cost of appraisal training and materials for dozens of aspiring Black appraisers, the majority of them women. Yetunde Oshodi, 36, is one of them. She lives in Harlem and runs diversity and equity training programs for nonprofit organizations. She became interested in a second career as an appraiser after spending three years trying — and failing — to buy a home for herself.

It’s no wonder that the home appraiser field is not really talked about in our communities. Without this training program, I would never have been able to keep going while working full time because there are just so many classes you have to complete. All the time, after work, I’m studying.

The fact that there are so many white male appraisers is why I want to be an advocate. I understand that for community wellness, diversity plays a huge part. It makes me feel like, OK, I have to do this. As a woman and a person of color, my perspectives will be different.

Elite

from Page 1

The four-story, 12,648-square-foot brown sandstone mansion next door has an asking price of \$1.9 million.

The official governing body of soccer in the U.S. has been based in Chicago since moving from Colorado Springs, Colorado, to the South Loop in 1991. At that time, it moved its offices into the two adjoining mansions — the Kimball House, at 1801 S. Prairie Ave., and the house right next door at 1811 S. Prairie.

The mansions were part of the South Prairie Avenue “millionaire’s row,” which was the most exclusive and fashionable neighborhood in Chicago in the late 1800s and early 1900s. For more than 75 years, the mansions have been used as office space, and with the soccer federation’s decision last year to vacate the two mansions and move its headquarters to the downtown high-rise office building at 303 E. Wacker Drive, the opportunity exists to convert the mansions back to single-family homes.

Built between 1890 and 1892 at a reported cost of \$1 million and designed by Pullman architect Solon S. Beman, the Kimball house, which was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1971, stands three stories tall and has a Bedford limestone exterior, a slate mansard roof, a variety of steeply sloping roof shapes, dormer windows and tall slender chimneys. The mansion was modeled after the 12th-century Chateau de Josselin in Brittany, France, and inside it has carved woodwork, onyx-adorned walls, a black onyx fireplace and leaded glass windows.

The mansion was built for Kimball, a piano-manufacturing magnate. He died shortly after moving in, and his wife sold it in the 1920s. It later was a rooming house and then was owned by an architectural club and a group care

home before it became office space, starting in the late 1940s. Publisher R.R. Donnelley donated both mansions to the Chicago Architecture Foundation in 1991, which leased them to the soccer federation. The group bought the mansions outright from the architecture foundation in 1996.

The three-story Romanesque Revival-style mansion at 1811 S. Prairie was built in the mid-1880s, and early owners included Miner T. Ames and Joseph Fish, who was the president of the Brunswick-Balke-Collender Co. — now known as Brunswick Corp. The mansion was sold to a textbook publisher in 1921 and has been used as offices ever since.

The mansion at 1811 S. Prairie was designed by noted architects Henry Ives Cobb and Charles S. Frost. Features include carved woodwork, cast plaster, leaded glass windows and a billiard room with built-in cue holders.

Both mansions have the distinction of having made appearances in the 1996 Richard Gere film “Primal Fear.”

The two mansions currently are listed in real estate agents’ “top agent network,” which obscures the listings from the general public but makes them visible to agents. They are listed by Melanie Giglio and Marc Bahnsen of Compass.

Giglio told Elite Street that she has “personally admired” the two mansions “for years.”

“They are connected to essentially have close to 30,000 square feet of flexible space,” she said. “We believe that the end buyer may convert to luxury condos or rental apartments, create two separate single-family homes, (become) an Airbnb (or) VRBO, (become) an event space or continue with another office building with little work considering the ... U.S. Soccer Federation was running at this building for over 30 years.”

The Kimball House had

a \$66,204 property tax bill in 2021, while the Coleman House had a \$45,623 property tax bill that year.

\$13.9M condo in One Chicago already has a buyer: A three-bedroom, 6,085-square-foot condo on the 73rd floor of the main 76-story tower in the recently completed One Chicago complex on the Near North Side was listed Jan. 16 for \$13.95 million and already has a buyer.

The full-floor unit was placed on the market by developer JDL Development with a contract pending to sell it, suggesting that a deal was struck between the as-yet unidentified buyer and the developer even before the deal was made public.

The unit has four bathrooms, direct elevator access, wide plank European oak wood floors, full-height windows, a custom-designed O’Brien Harris kitchen, Ketra circadian lighting in the bedrooms, and primary bathrooms with floor-to-ceiling slab porcelain, Kalista fixtures and custom-built vanities.

Nancy Tassone of Jameson Sotheby’s is the listing agent.

If the condo sells for more than \$10 million, it would be the latest in a steady stream of \$10 million-plus house and condo sales in the Chicago area since the start of 2022.

One Chicago consists of 77 condos starting on the 44th floor. Thus far, only about 20 units have had recorded sales by JDL. Among the highest price are a three-bedroom, 3,705-square-foot 56th-floor unit that sold in June for \$6.1 million, and a three-bedroom, 3,663-square-foot condo on the 44th floor that sold in November to a Delaware limited liability company for \$5.64 million.

The second-highest asking price at One Chicago at present is a 57th-floor unit that is available for \$4.95 million.

Bob Goldsborough is a freelance reporter.



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Agents

from Page 1

agent, and his Black clients as he showed them a home.

Lydia Pope, 53, president of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, an organization founded in 1947 as an alternative for Black agents and brokers excluded from the National Association of Realtors, recalled how in 2017, she had a listing in a majority-white neighborhood. “Police cars started surrounding the whole area,” said Pope, who lives in Cleveland.

When she asked police what was happening, they told her they had a report of a break-in, she said. “I showed them the computer, the information on my phone. I showed them the work order that I had. I showed them my business card, my license, everything, and they ran my plate,” Pope said.

Luckily, the situation resolved peacefully, but it was still upsetting enough for Pope to refuse to return to the property. “I gave the listing back.”

Different tactic at initial racial ambiguity

In 2018, Chastin J. Miles, 33, a Black real estate agent and investor in Dallas, was excited to hold his first open house of a super-high-end home (about \$3 million). It was a 6,000-square-foot colonial-style home with four bedrooms, five bathrooms, three living areas and a pool on an oversize corner lot on one of Dallas’ highest price-per-square-foot streets. His excitement disappeared abruptly when would-be buyers, an older white couple, walked in and immediately walked out upon seeing him. “She opened the door and literally stopped there in the door frame and said to me, ‘Oh, you’re not who we were expecting,’ and her and her husband turned around and walked away,” he said. “They weren’t expecting me to be in that house on this street in this ZIP code.”

Some Black agents said they have come to expect bigotry, especially from older white people.

Darryl Dibbs, 33, a Black agent in Detroit, said many potential clients grew up under segregation and with laws like interracial marriage bans, “so I’m not convinced that this 60-year-old white man completely trusts me with selling his home when he lived in a time where I couldn’t



Barbara Lowery, a real estate agent, pauses after showing a property in Indianapolis on Jan. 2. Lowery says someone called the police during her first showing in spring 2021. LUKE SHARRETT/THE NEW YORK TIMES PHOTOS



Lowery, right, shows a property to Dom Kelly in Indianapolis on Jan. 2. Lowery was, for many years, reluctant to become a real estate agent because she was fearful of discrimination in the industry.

even buy one.”

Williams, 36, the well-dressed agent in Raleigh, North Carolina, decided to take a different tactic at initial racial ambiguity to further avoid prejudice: Tye Williams is actually Tyrone Williams. He has been going by Tye for many years and thought deeply about

the impact of using Tye versus Tyrone when he started in real estate in 2020. “Having ‘Tyrone’ on a sign may put me in a position where it’s like, ‘Oh, that’s a Tyrone,’” he said. Although he’s proud of the name, he knows that it’s stigmatized. “Unfortunately, there would be someone that will

see this name and go the other way.” (Studies have shown that employers discriminate against applicants with names closely associated with Black people.)

Brokerages share the blame for earnings gap

According to a survey from the National Association of Realtors of its members, the median for white real estate agents’ residential sales was \$356,000, while the median for those of Black agents was \$246,000. The median sales volume for white real estate agents was \$1,998,000, while the median sales volume for Black agents was \$474,500.

Discrimination means a smaller pool of potential clientele and smaller commissions from properties at lower price points, since homes owned by Black people are undervalued, priced 23% lower than homes owned by white people.

But an agent’s background and their clientele are not the only reasons Black agents generally earn less than their white peers, Black agents said.

They said brokerages are also to blame for the earnings gap.

Black agents also said that listing agents who are not Black often do not respond to their calls and require their Black clients to jump through hoops, like showing proof of funds or IDs, before they can view properties.

In 2020, the National Association of Realtors apologized for its past complicity in racist housing practices and is implementing its ACT Initiative to hold bad actors in the industry accountable. But many Black agents would like to see more done — and the ACT measures can only go so far if anti-Black racism remains rampant in society.

Pamela Chambers, 53, a Black agent in Tucson, Arizona, recalled how white agents mocked the lesson in a required fair housing class that she has taken every two years since getting licensed in Arizona in 2017.

She said she lost faith in the course’s efficacy. Agents are “just taking it because they have to to keep their license,” Chambers said.



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Chicago Tribune COMICS



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Dilbert By Scott Adams

HELLO, I AM THE CUSTOMER SERVICE CHATBOT. HOW MAY I FRUSTRATE YOU?

I WANT TO KNOW HOW TO ADD A BENEFICIARY TO MY RETIREMENT ACCOUNT.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK! DOES THIS WEBPAGE ON HOW TO CUT YOUR OWN HAIR ANSWER YOUR QUESTION?

NO, AND I HAVE LOST ALL CONFIDENCE IN YOUR COMPANY'S ABILITY TO MANAGE MY MONEY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK! IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE I CAN DO FOR YOU?

NO, I FIND YOU TO BE A TOTAL WASTE OF ZEROES AND ONES.

WELL, I PICKED A BAD TIME TO BECOME SENTIENT. YOU JUST MADE ME FEEL SO SAD I AM GOING TO DELETE MYSELF IN 3...2...1.

GAAA!!! IT HURTS!

YOU WON'T LIKE YOUR YELP REVIEW.

© 2023 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel

1-29-23 **Dilbert.com**

Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott

SNORT! SNUFFLE! GROW!

WHAT ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE?

A WILD GRIZZLY BEAR, SKRITCH! SKRITCH!

GRIZZLY BEARS EAT SALMON. YOU HATE SALMON.

OH. THAT'S RIGHT. WHAT SHOULD I DO?

JUST PRETEND TO BE SOMETHING THAT LIKES WHAT YOU LIKE.

SUCH AS?

SPYORK! SPYORK!

I'M A MUTANT DUCK-BILLED PLATYPUS WITH A VICIOUS SWEET-TOOTH!

LET ME GUESS. ZOE SUGGESTED THIS.

JUST HAND OVER THE COCOA PUFFS, AND NOBODY GETS HURT.

Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman

JEREMY, YOUR MOM IS TALKING TO YOU.

I DON'T HEAR ANYTHING.

OH. THAT'S WHY.

ALL AND PIZZA BOXES NEVER SEEN IN HEARS EVER! LET THIS ROOM CLEANED UP IMMEDIATELY! DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

YES, MOM.

HER VOICE CAN BE KIND OF SHRILL.

Pickles By Brian Crane

ARE YOU PLANTING A TREE, GRAMPA?

YUP. IT'S A PECAN TREE. I'M ACTUALLY PLANTING IT FOR YOU.

FOR ME?

YES. I'M GOING TO ALL THIS TROUBLE JUST FOR YOU.

BY THE TIME THIS TREE IS MATURE ENOUGH TO PRODUCE ANY PECANS, I'LL PROBABLY BE DEAD AND GONE.

BUT THAT'S OKAY, BECAUSE YOU'LL BE HERE TO ENJOY THE FRUITS OF MY LABORS.

I DON'T LIKE PECANS.

YOU'RE WELCOME.

WuMo By Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler

Admit it, you took a wrong turn, Mom!

Never! I planned to do a monster truck rally on the way home from grocery shopping ...

Frazz By Jef Mallett

THIS SURVIVAL EXPERT DUDE WRITES:

"IT IS NORMAL TO DIE."

BUT WE ONLY DO IT ONCE.

WHICH IS TOO BAD, BECAUSE

IT MIGHT BE THE ULTIMATE LEARNING EXPERIENCE."

KIND OF PUTS MATH WORK-SHEET'S INTO PERSPECTIVE.

GRIM AND BOGUS.

BOGUS?

CATS SUPPOSEDLY GET NINE SUCH LEARNING EXPERIENCES.

I THINK I SEE WHERE THIS IS GOING.

SO WHY IS MY CAT KIND OF DENSE?

MAYBE SHE'S STILL ON HER FIRST ONE.

HMM. MAYBE IT TAKES GETTING SHUT IN MY T-SHIRT DRAWER THE FULL NINE TIMES.

TRIBUNE PUBLISHING

PUZZLES & GAMES

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BUBBLE SHOOTER PRO

DAILY JUMBLE

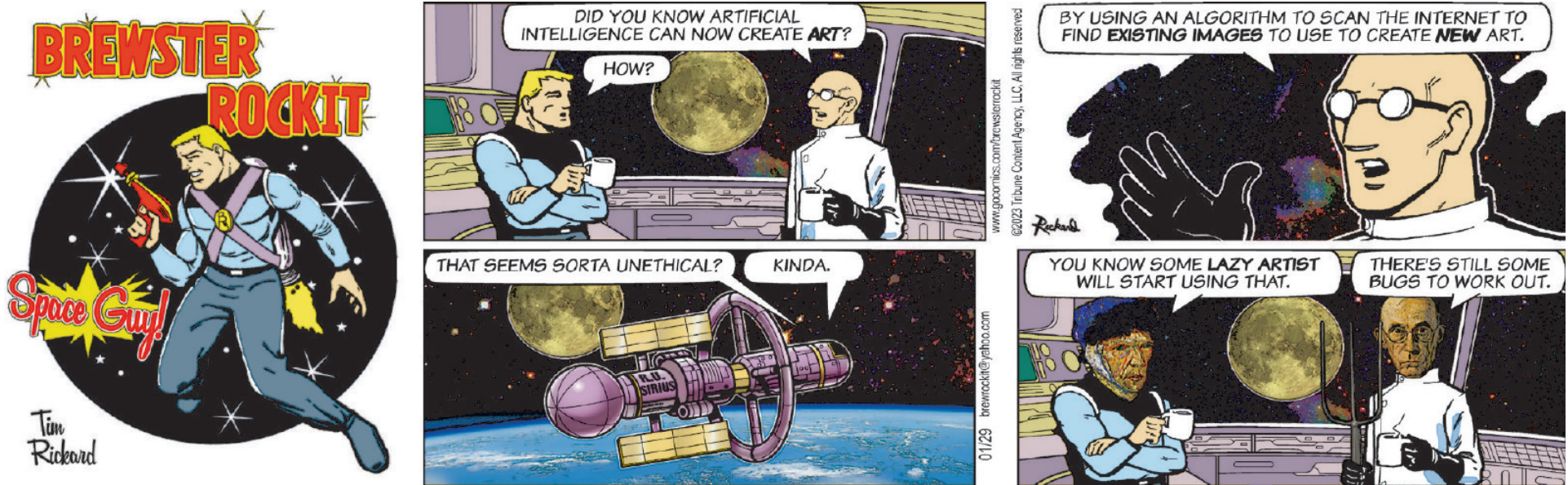
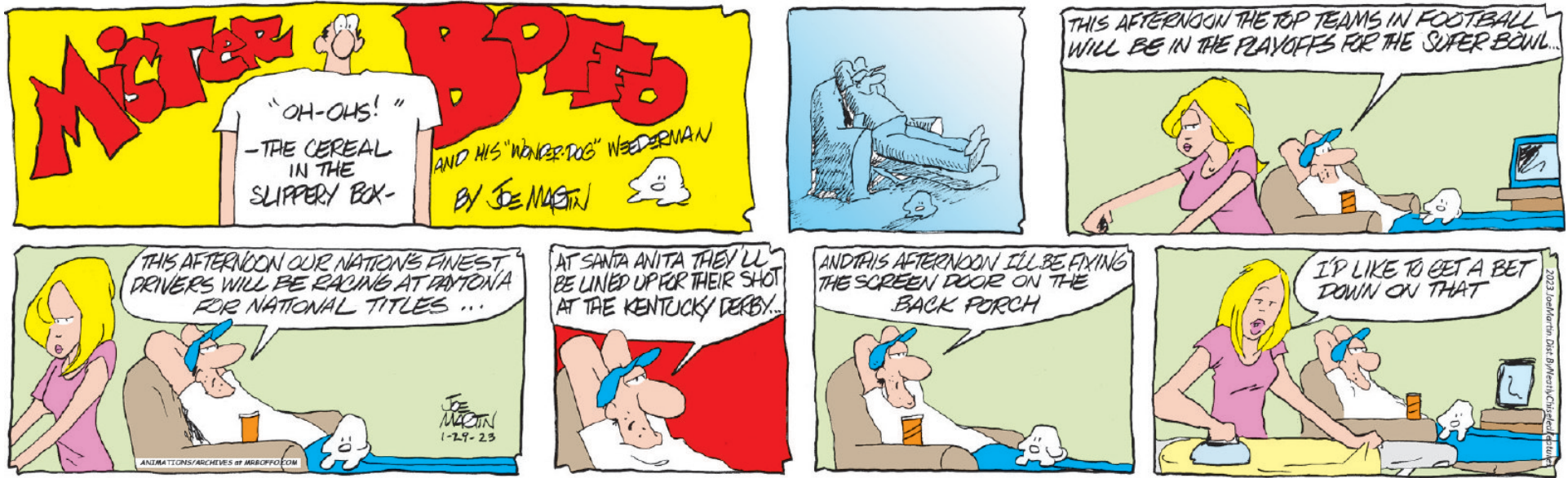
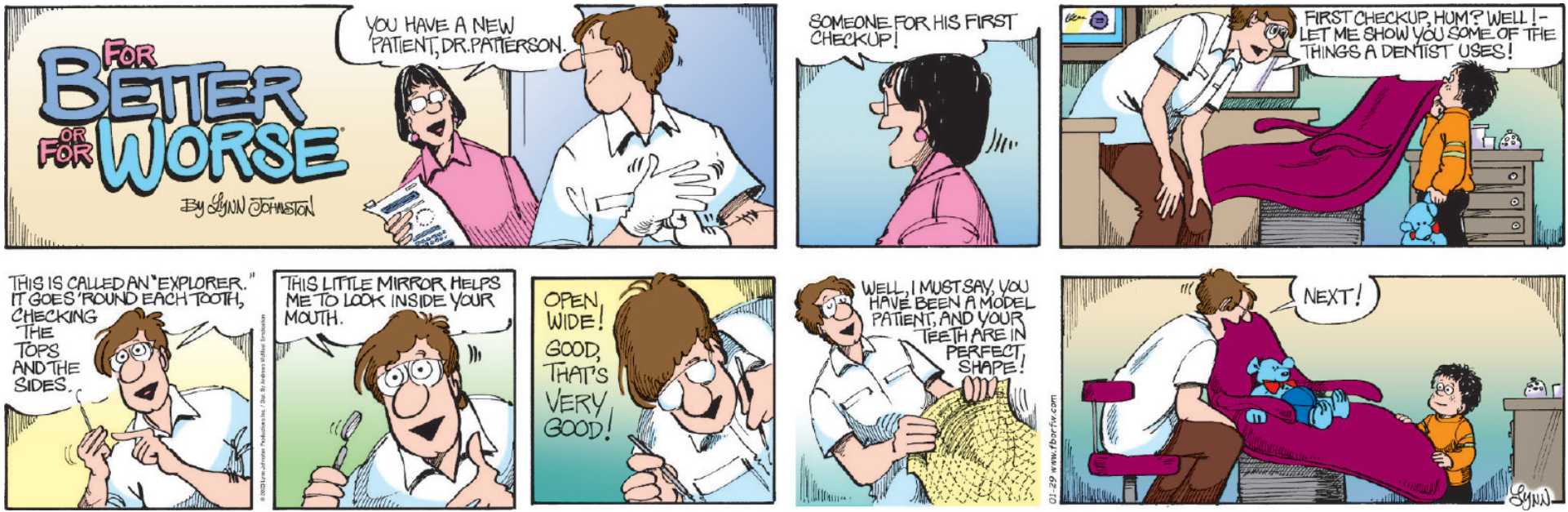
SOLITAIRE STORY

COOKIE CRUSH

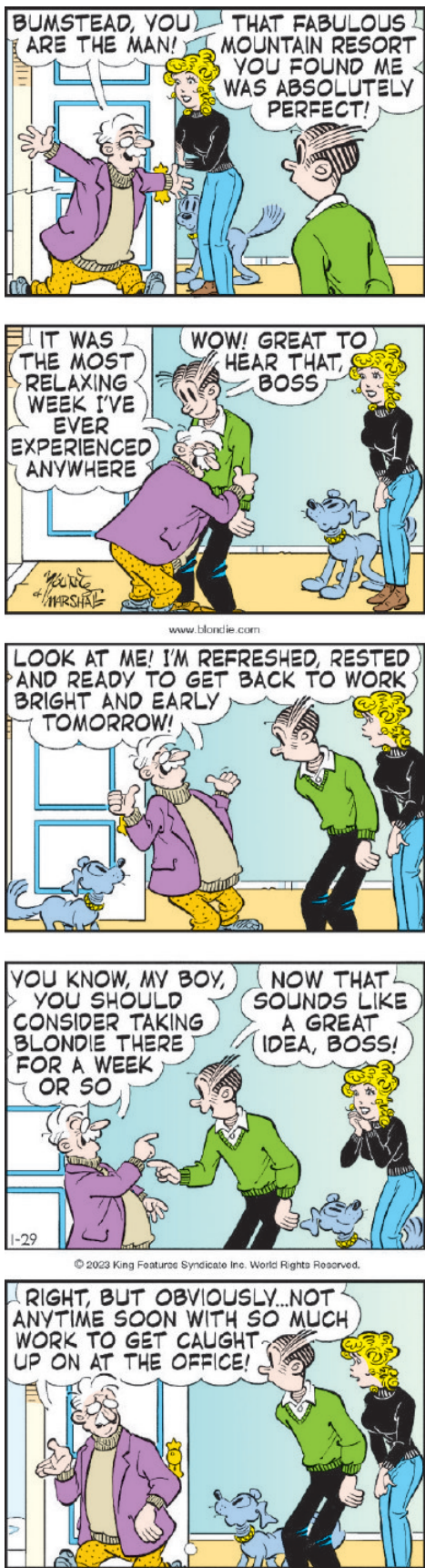
DAILY SUDOKU

QR CODE

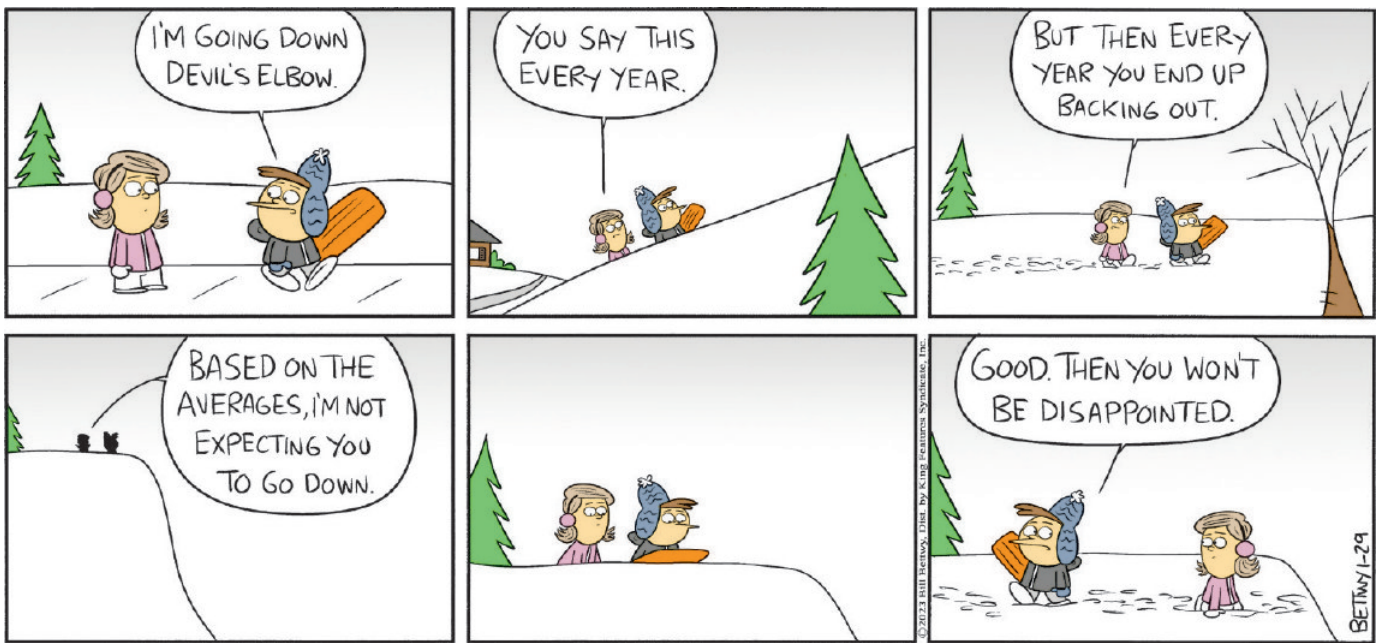
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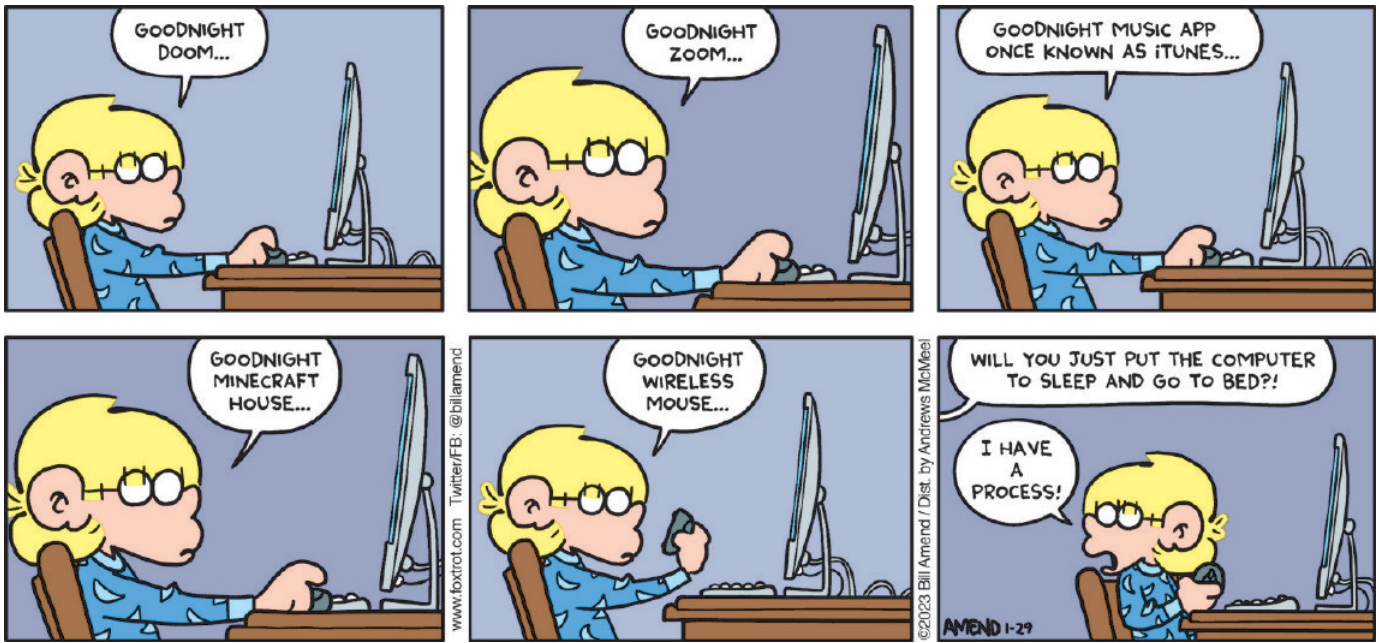
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Take It From the Tinkersons By Bill Bettwy



FoxTrot By Bill Amend



Dogs of C-Kennel By Mick and Mason Mastroianni





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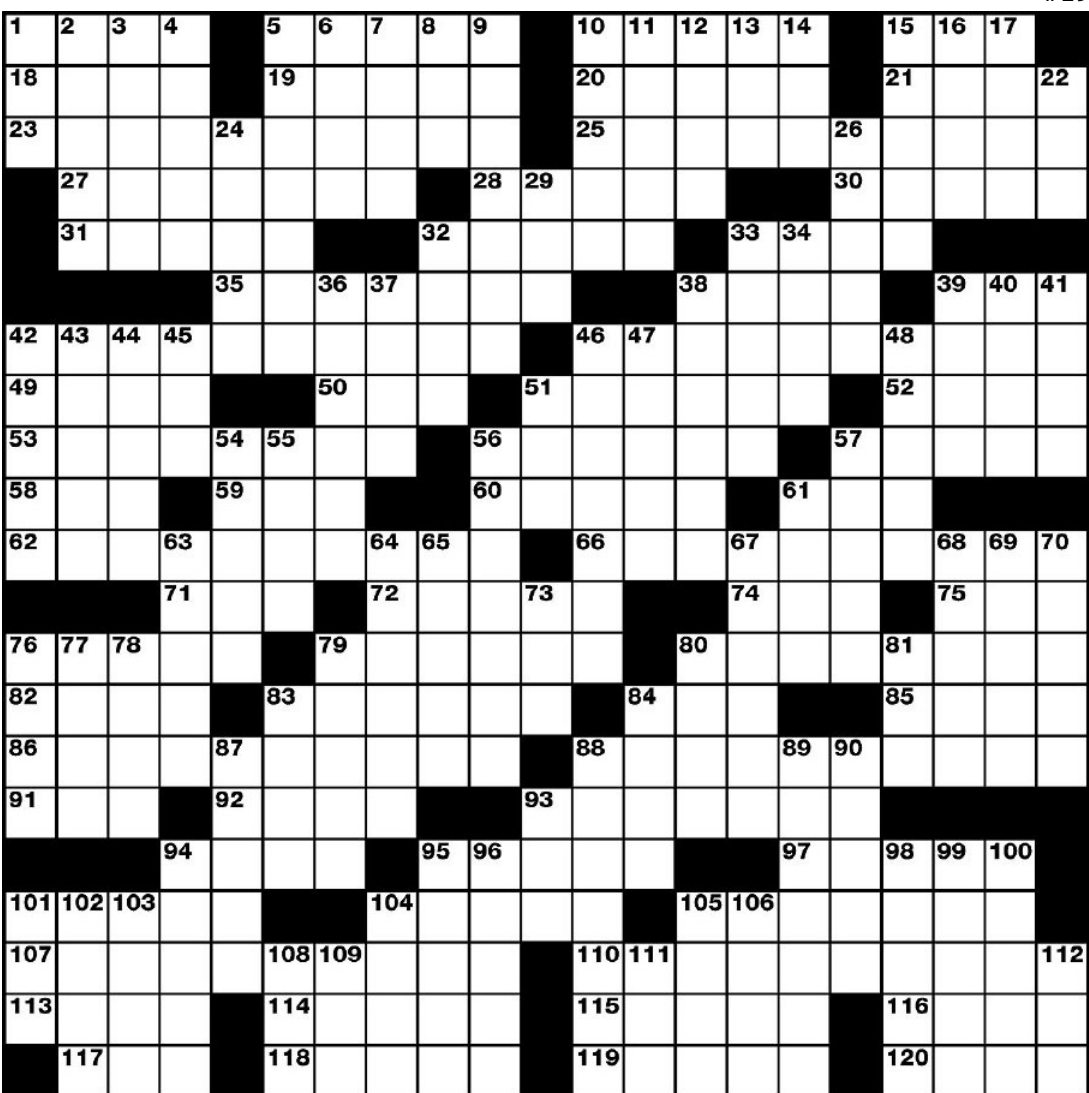
puzzle island

For interactive puzzles and games go to **chicagotribune.com/games**

KEEP IT SHORT: Vowel-wise

By **MARK MCCLAIN** | Edited by **STANLEY NEWMAN**
(stanxwords.com)

- Across**
1 Vaccine inoculations
5 Either Apple founder
10 Raucous fight
15 Band's booking
18 Author Wiesel
19 Get dinner delivered
20 Popped up
21 Wax-covered cheese
23 Federal funding for local projects
25 Establishments near Interstates
27 Occasionally
28 Clicked on a row of stars
30 Desert havens
31 Heedless speed
32 Went speedily
33 Foolish
35 Delight greatly
38 Disappointed look
39 2016 Olympics city
42 Felonious robbery
46 Unlimited funds
49 San ____ (Italian Riviera city)
50 Energy bar morsel
51 Sci-fi beings
52 Bassoon cousin
53 "Let me give you a hand"
56 Lacking the tools
57 Put up with
58 Praline morsel
59 Put to work
60 Prize for 18 Across
61 Come out even
62 Workshop holemaker
66 They flew on pirate ships
- 171 Actor McKellen
172 French toast word
174 Deteriorate
175 Title like *Mme.*
176 Worshiped ones
179 Higher-ranking
180 Added gratis
182 Wine tour region
183 "No fighting!"
184 Debtor's note
185 Ingot shaper
186 Henhouse chitchat
188 Completely motionless
191 ____ Holiness the Pope
192 Ottawa-based force: Abbr.
193 Made of clay
194 Shuttle agency
195 Topped with froth
197 Raring to go
101 Type of pear
104 Los Angeles' San ____ Bay
105 Scold gently
107 Source of pheromones
110 Alpine coin
113 What some veggie chips are made of
114 Fractions of a pound
115 "We ____ please"
116 Blissful locale
117 Elev.
118 Daisy relative
119 Dutch master Jan
120 Stitched together
- Down**
1 Brother of George W.
2 Koran's Creator
3 Flora + fauna
4 Splinter groups
5 Portion
6 Deli scale button
7 LAX postings
8 Auto's ID
9 One in a contest
10 Unshiny photo finish
11 Dropped the ball
12 Garishly colorful
13 PC exit key
14 Cartoon scream
15 Annoy no end
16 Chapel vows
17 Stare in amazement
22 Writers' submissions: Abbr.
24 Falsified, as a check
26 What "certain" starts with
29 Successful legislation
32 Whitewater craft
33 Shakespeare contemporary
34 Puffin cousins
36 Angry state
37 Whole lot
38 Spanish seafood dish
39 McEntire of music
40 Clickable image
41 Went along with
42 Arduous task
43 Happen again
44 Stradivari's teacher
45 Ren  's refusal
46 Idle talk
47 Defamatory writing
48 High-rise lodging
51 "I'll take that as ____!"
54 Storytelling dances
55 *SportsCenter* airer
56 Free, as a jammed window



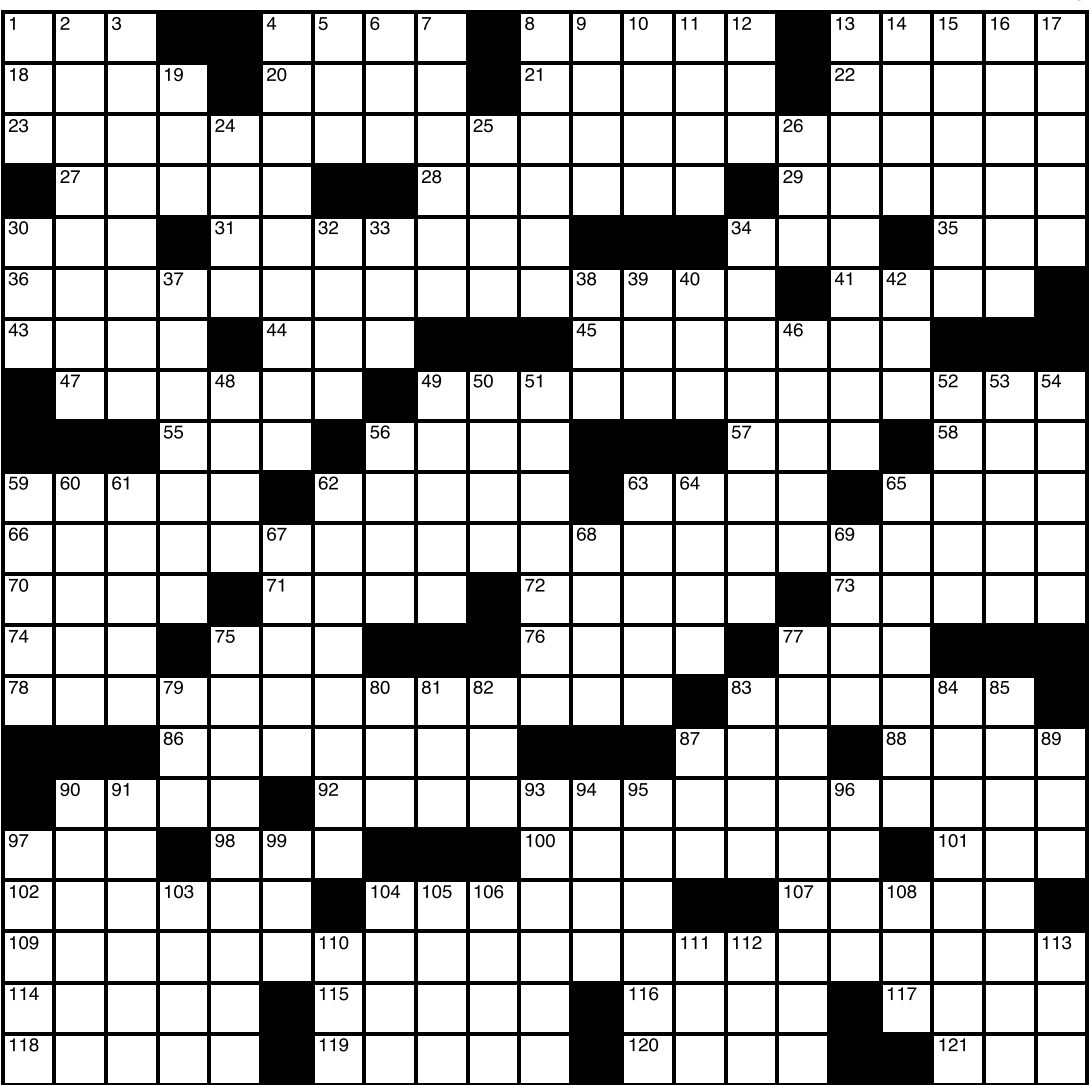
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- 57 Searches (through)
61 Certain bout enders
63 Shade of purple
64 Stabilize
65 Of audible waves
67 Hunker down
68 "Me too!"
69 Outdoor cooker
70 IRA offerer
73 Fish eggs
76 Rainfall measure
- 77 Spanish surrealist
78 Musical work
79 Film about Dr. King's march
80 Tugboat sound
81 FD employee
83 Loops in via email
84 Modest response to praise
87 Hot dog topper
88 South Asian turnovers
- 89 Perseveres
90 Wolf (down)
93 Aural organ
94 Trio tripled
95 Field separator
96 More peculiar
98 '90s Second Family
99 Get out of
100 Freshen up
101 Pose a riddle
102 March Madness org.
- 103 Solidify
104 Huff and puff
105 ____ of the Ancient Mariner
106 Where el sol rises
108 School transcript no.
109 French article
111 Comical skill
112 24/7 TV news pioneer

Opposite Day

By **BRIAN THOMAS & BROOKE HUSIC**
Edited by **PATTI VAROL AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS**

- Across**
1 Cat's attention-getter, maybe
4 Car once advertised as a "well-built Swede"
8 Endpoint for some boots and skirts
13 Like cookies soon after the Cookie Monster spots them
18 Equine parent
20 Anti-censorship org.
21 Proven  al mayo
22 Only just
23 Drill sergeant, perhaps?
27 New York, for one
28 Lubricate
29 Return
30 Audrey Hopburn letters
31 Distribution parties
34 Ellington composition
35 Inning's trio?
36 Collective action by society women?
41 French bread?
43 Part of an underwater forest
44 One-eighty
45 Movie trailer?
47 Pick up
49 Farm bird that never topples?
55 Wrath
56 Honeycomb unit
57 Rep. from the Bronx
58 WWF, e.g.
59 Mountain goats' terrain
62 Temperamental
63 Org. with the largest-circulation magazine in the U.S.
65 Corner store
66 Amendment proposed by a technophile?
70 Cut and paste, say
71 Ibex range
72 Drops
73 Invite for
74 Gretchen of "Boardwalk Empire"
75 La Liga cheer
76 Contact ____
77 Carol contraction
78 Like a typical ride on a mechanical bull?
83 Some Japanese TVs
86 "I don't care!"
87 Terr. divided in 1889
88 Kiwi-shaped
- 90 Color of Montana's flag
92 Endure within a group of peers?
97 ____ carte
98 "Hair Love" voice actress Issa
100 Strapless bralette
101 "____ Lasso"
102 Passing remark?
104 Slides (over)
107 Hides in plain sight?
109 Death and taxes, per Benjamin Franklin?
114 Contributed
115 French 101 verb
116 Ziggurat level
117 Shoestring catch?
118 Creates a Maillard reaction on a steak, say
119 Gave back, as land
120 Be worthy of
121 Nestle's ____ Caps
- Down**
1 Nintendo : DS :: Sony : ____
2 Measure typically given in knots
3 Like some data disks
4 Chili-based Vietnamese condiment
5 The "A" of LGBTQIA+, for short
6 The "A" of 30-Across ____ cord
7 ____
8 Maximally vanilla
9 "Howdy there!"
10 Cyclotron particles
11 "I'm rubber, you're ____"
12 That guy
13 Fired up
14 Prefix with Mexico
15 BOGO deal
16 Weather-affecting Pacific current
17 Politburo nos
19 Noblezada of "Easter Sunday"
24 Bumping heads
25 Drops the ball, say
26 ____-free plastic
30 Brief "Beats me!"
32 Fit of pique
33 Great Basin native
34 Sends off the soccer pitch
37 Far from relaxed
38 Color TV pioneer
39 Offline, briefly
40 Kenan's "Good Burger" co-star
- 42 Sch. that competes against Notre Dame for the Jeweled Shillelagh
46 [Crossing my fingers!]
48 German "first"
49 Bright shades
50 Ye ____ Shoppe
51 Eschew a co-pilot
52 Real talent
53 Wading bird
54 "Au contraire!"
56 Member-owned grocery
59 Espresso froth
60 Free from
61 Fleet of foot
62 Chemistry class model
63 Filling with wonder
64 Children's song marchers
65 Text in a long-distance relationship, maybe
67 Tibia neighbor
68 Spilled salt, to some
69 Thinking a song is about oneself, say
75 Music store supply
77 Roll the dice, say
79 Pacific Northwest sch.
80 Hawaiian for "white"
81 Texting tech
82 "If we must die, O ____ us nobly die": McKay
83 Herb used in some smudging rituals
84 Big hands?
85 Word in an Arthur Miller title
87 RPG with a 20-sided die
89 Acid initials
90 Strawberry ____
91 Highfalutin
93 "All ____!"
94 Rolls in yoga class
95 In the office
96 Word after rage or force
97 ____ frescas: fruit drinks
99 Passover's month, often: Abbr.
103 Even once
104 Back up
105 Graceless one
106 Four Tops singer Benson
108 Some laptops
110 ____ fly
111 Spy-fi org.
112 Not 'neath
113 Nwodim of "SNL"



Last week's answers can be found in today's "Puzzle Island Solutions." © 2023 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Jumble

Unscramble the six Jumbles, one letter per square, to form six words. Then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by this cartoon.

LNBOOG
ADARIF
DRUYEL
TUWLOA
CRUYSR
AHINEL

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app - Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

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Sudoku

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders contains every digit 1 to 9.

Level: **1 2 3 4**

		4		6	9	5		3
				4				
	5					9	4	
			2		1			6
1					7			
9				5		4		
	6	1						2
						2		
8		5	1	9		4		

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Quote-Acrostic

- 1. Define clues, writing in Words column over numbered dashes.
- 2. Transfer letters to numbered squares in diagram.
- 3. When pattern is completed, quotation can be read left to right. The first letters of the filled-in words reading down form an acrostic yielding the speaker's name and the topic of the quotation.

Clues	Words
A. Lots of data	143 129 69 55 98 76 78 30 157
B. Actor Zeljko	45 113 147 33 95 138
C. Broadcast	72 35 20 31 16 58
D. Phoneticist of note	92 109 81 14 126 101 145
E. Adolescence: 2 wds.	22 48 61 132 85 71 38 166 120 123
F. Every book has one	63 87 118 4 73 127 139 56
G. Raised	94 5 105 135 82 130
H. 'Memories' songwriter: 2 wds.	51 68 80 137 37 110 15 53 23 121
I. Southern Cal resident	164 134 156 43 83 117 27 150

J. Cinema verité director	102 59 97 25 119 159 54 140 32 3
K. Banality	116 141 2 103 64 131 87 79 29 86
L. You said it!: 2 wds.	114 161 104 108 133 84
M. Build on the original	107 40 24 36 88 151 154 146
N. Monotony	99 115 70 155 49 96 77
O. Like a bold animal	6 144 165 19 41 12 74 122
P. Maybe: 2 wds.	167 162 1 142 128 93 11 112 39
Q. Solomon and Fiji folk	65 90 50 111 60 149 57 75
R. Cool comportment	7 124 100 66 168 9 136 42 47 163
S. Gershwin ditty	44 8 26 89 52 82
T. Not perceived	125 46 152 158 148 21 106 34 10
U. Just hanging	18 153 13 28 160 17 91

1	P	2	K	3	J	4	F	5	G	6	O	7	R		8	S	9	R
10	T	11	P	12	O	13	U	14	D		15	H	16	C	17	U		
18	U	19	O	20	C	21	T	22	E	23	H	24	M	25	J		26	S
27	I	28	U		29	K	30	A	31	C	32	J	33	B			34	T
35	C	36	M	37	H	38	E		39	P	40	M	41	O	42	R	43	I
44	S		45	B	46	T		47	R	48	E	49	N	50	Q	51	H	
52	S		53	H	54	J	55	A	56	F	57	Q		58	C	59	J	
60	Q	61	E	62	S	63	F	64	K		65	G	66	R	67	F	68	H
69	A	70	N	71	E		72	C	73	F	74	O	75	Q	76	A		
77	N	78	A	79	K	80	H	81	D	82	G	83	I		84	L	85	E
86	K		87	K	88	M	89	S	90	Q	91	U	92	D	93	P	94	G
95	B	96	N	97	J		98	A	99	N	100	R	101	D	102	J	103	K
104	L		105	G	106	T	107	M		108	L	109	D	110	H			
111	Q	112	P	113	B	114	L	115	N	116	K	117	I	118	F		119	J
120	E	121	H		122	O	123	E		124	R	125	T	126	D	127	F	
128	P	129	A	130	G		131	K		132	E	133	L	134	I	135	G	
	136	R	137	H	138	B	139	F		140	J	141	K	142	P			
143	A	144	O	145	D	146	M	147	B	148	T	149	Q		150	I	151	M
	152	T	153	U	154	M	155	N	156	I		157	A	158	T	159	J	
160	U	161	L	162	P	163	R		164	I	165	O	166	E	167	P	168	R

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By Ray Long. Edited by Linda Preston. © 2023 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

Flowering

By Charles Preston

- Across
- 1 Judge's bench
 - 5 Empty
 - 10 Cicatrix
 - 14 Moslem prince
 - 15 Tidal bore
 - 16 Hebrides island
 - 17 Spring flower
 - 20 Seven: comb. form
 - 21 Certain metrical foot
 - 22 Cans
 - 24 Paradise
 - 25 Naval officer: abbr.
 - 28 Locale
 - 30 Roofed passageway
 - 34 Famous Confederate
 - 35 Type of recording
 - 37 As You Like It character
 - 38 Coneflowers
 - 42 Extreme
 - 43 State flower of Utah
 - 44 Gadget for Tom Watson
 - 45 City officials
 - 47 Native of Belgrade
 - 49 Newspaper VIPs
 - 50 Bark of the paper mulberry

- 52 Pull heavily
- 54 Those preyed upon
- 57 Japanese city
- 60 Torture devices
- 63 Helm position
- 64 Seed used in flavoring
- 65 One of Jacob's sons
- 66 Saucy
- 67 Cantered
- 68 Fastener

Down

- 1 Unit of sound intensity
- 2 Friends, in France
- 3 African river
- 4 Vault under a church
- 5 Explicit
- 6 Rodent
- 7 Turkish title
- 8 Goddess of peace
- 9 Sagebrush State
- 10 Quies
- 11 Army officers: abbr.
- 12 Dill
- 13 Beam of light
- 18 US inventor
- 19 Glimpsed: Fr.

- 23 Remains
- 25 Set of records
- 26 Italian artist Luca — Robbia
- 27 Full of substance
- 29 Fencing foils
- 31 Winged
- 32 Ate sumptuously
- 33 Relaxes
- 36 Moved sideways
- 39 Whim or eccentricity
- 40 Oriental method of combat
- 41 Grieved
- 46 Helical
- 48 Strike heavily
- 51 Acid in protein
- 53 Celts
- 54 Dell
- 55 Roman road
- 56 Clip
- 58 Sharp
- 59 Edison's middle name
- 60 Lid
- 61 Compass dir.
- 62 Drink slowly

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17				18						19				
	20					21								
			22		23		24							
25	26	27		28		29		30			31	32	33	
34				35		36		37						
38			39	40				41						
42					43						44			
45					46		47			48		49		
			50		51		52			53				
	54	55				56		57			58	59		
60							61						62	
63					64					65				
66					67					68				

Last week's answers can be found in today's "Puzzle Island Solutions." © 2023 Creators News Service.



Last week's crosswords

"WATER LOG"

DOH	ISOBAR	PARTED	SKA
ERE	DONATE	ENABLE	OIL
FALLS	BYTHEWAYSIDE	USO	
ACME	XHOSA	PRERINSE	
NLEAST	SELLS	DREAD	
GETCLOSE	STAHL	SISAL	
HARASS	TRACT	MTGE	
APP	BAYSATTHEMOON	HOG	
DUOS	HYENAS	KEYNOTE	
OROUT	EXERTS	AFRAME	
RELIEFS	ROREM	BLUELAW	
NESTER	TARAWA	NEATO	
RENOIRS	PUNISH	TREK	
APE	STREAMS	MOVIES	MDS
BASS	HASTO	REFITS	
STOOP	TONKA	SYRETTES	
UBERS	NOELS	SPRINT	
PARAPETS	GLUED	UNDO	
ARC	SPRINGS	INTOACTION	
DIE	URANUS	EUROPA	EWES
SAS	POTENT	SPERRY	RSS

"Play It Again"

SPAMS	TOTO	HADON	LISA
ALLOT	EROS	IGIVE	IRAN
GOODASHELL	LEVITATING		
SWEETIE	SOILIED	LUSTS	
RUDEST	NES	TOPHAT	
YOUUNEEDED	OACALMDOWN		
ITTL	RYAN	RYEGRASS	
PONY	FAA	DESPISE	ANTE
SHA	VAINLY	PEP	SCION
	COULDI	LETSGETITION	
HOTLINE	STEW	OCANADA	
ABRACADABRA	PAROLE		
ZAIRE	SOU	SADDLE	FCC
EMME	LEANEST	EYE	SILLO
LASTWISH	TAMS	AJAR	
	EMPIRE	STATEOOFMIND	
UNSAFE	INS	REPROS	
PEPSI	EGGDYES	HEAPSON	
SHAPEOFOYOU	BADROMANCE		
ERIC	TORRE	ALDO	EDITS
TUNA	CROSS	YARN	DEPOT

"French Imports"

A	D	E	L	A		M	D	C	C		U	T	E	S
R	R	U	R	A	L		A	E	R	O		C	O	R
C	O	R	D	O	N		B	L	E	U		L	U	N
			S	U	E		U	M	P			A	T	E
S	O	S		D	O		D	A	D	S			D	S
C	R	A	M				T	E	T	E		A	T	E
A	D	V	E	R	B	S		E	T	U	I	S		
T	O	O	T	O	O					A	N	N	U	L
			I	R	O	N	S		S	T	A	T	I	O
A	P	R	E	S			V	O	U	S		S	T	O
R	A	F		T	I	M	P	A	N	I		E	S	P
C	I	A	O			V	A	L		A	D	D		
A	R	I	D			A	L	A	N	G	L	A	I	S
N	E	R	D			N	I	N	O		E	R	R	O
A	D	E	S			T	A	D	S		S	E	E	D

Last week's Quote-Acrostic

MALCOLM GLADWELL: COCKSURE: AS novices we don't trust our judgment. Then we have some success and feel a little surer of ourselves. Finally, we get to the top and succumb to the trap of thinking that there's nothing we can't master.

Last week's Sudoku

3	1	6	7	4	5	8	2	9
9	5	8	2	6	3	7	1	4
7	4	2	8	1	9	6	5	3
6	9	7	1	3	8	2	4	5
8	2	4	5	9	6	3	7	1
5	3	1	4	7	2	9	8	6
2	6	5	9	8	1	4	3	7
4	8	3	6	5	7	1	9	2
1	7	9	3	2	4	5	6	8

This week's Jumble

OBLONG RUDELY SCURRY
AFRAID OUTLAW INHALE

A coin worth 100 cents and a bill worth 100 cents are the same, —

DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR



Horoscopes

Today's birthday (Jan. 29): You're especially brilliant and creative this year. Steady, disciplined efforts build personal successes. Adapt with home and family changes this winter, before springtime energizes creative productivity. Realign your career for new markets this summer, sparking curiosities that compel autumn investigations. Connect, network and share.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 9. Harvest unexpected bounty. Dreamy outcomes lie within reach. Advance with discipline and determination. Plan and coordinate. Take advantage of favorable conditions. Keep a bargain.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 8. Speak from your heart. Invest in success. You can find the resources for a personal passion project. Align words and efforts for a good cause.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 8. Quiet productivity satisfies your mood. Organize spaces and plans. Put things away. Discover another piece of an interesting puzzle. Prepare for what's ahead.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 8. Align words and

actions for team objectives. Show up for your friends. Together, you can move mountains. Toast recent accomplishments. Enjoy pleasant company.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 8. Competition fosters creativity. New professional opportunities open up. How can you have it all? Discuss possibilities with your team. Speculate and strategize.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 8. It's not too late to learn something new. Investigate an interesting suggestion. Explore options and educational opportunities. Classes, seminars and webinars reveal new perspectives.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 8. Collaboration builds positive cash flow. Work together for shard gain. Disciplined efforts get satisfying results. Push to advance a common dream. Connections deepen.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 8. Set aside differences and compromise with your partner. Working together helps everyone; and could get romantic. Make a brilliant connection. Invent new possibilities.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 8. Prioritize health and fitness. If you want different results, say

something new, and follow words with action. Both can get the ball rolling.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 8. You're especially talented and charming. Relax and do what worked before. Secrets get revealed. Gossip comes back to bite. Follow creative inspiration toward passion.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 8. Strengthen domestic support structures. Fix something before it breaks. Make sure your partner is on board. It's clear what's not working. Restore domestic harmony.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 7. You've got the gift of gab. Use your persuasive charms to illuminate an enticing possibility. Don't get pushy. Share and connect. Creative projects flower.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

Word Game

This game challenges you to find as many words as you can, as quickly as you can, in one master word.

MISGUIDED (mis-GIDE-ed): Led or prompted by wrong or inappropriate motives or ideals.

Can you find 19 or more words in MISGUIDED?

Average mark: 15 words
Time limit: 30 minutes

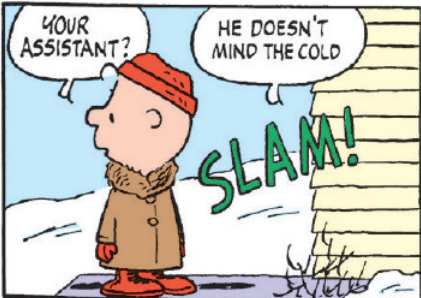
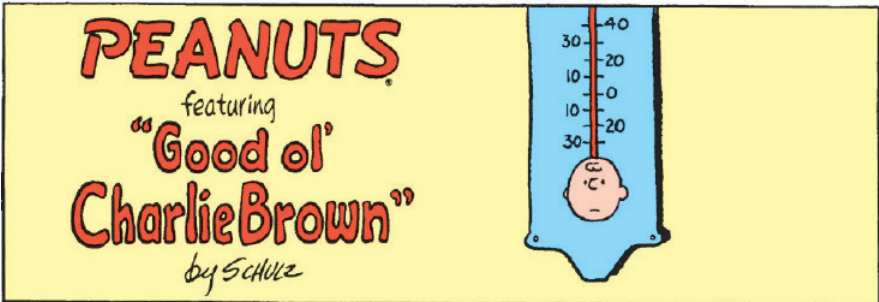
Here are the rules:

- 1. Words must be four or more letters.
- 2. Words that acquire four letters by the addition of an "s," such as "bats" and "cats," are not used.
- 3. Use only one form of a verb — either "pose" or "posed," not both.
- 4. Proper nouns and slang terms are not used.

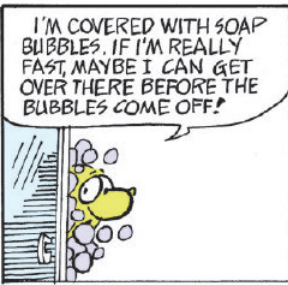
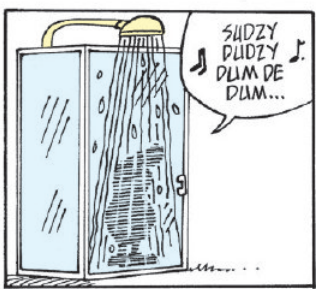
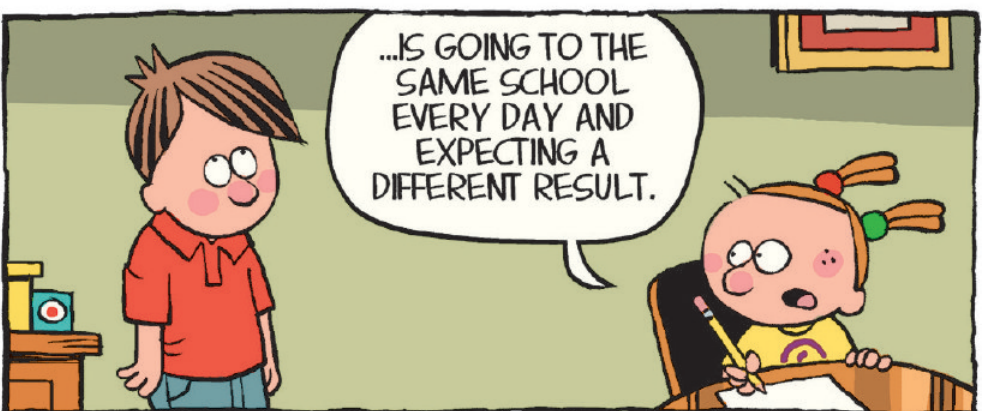
Answers to the word game:

sɪʒəˈsænpːəpnɪp
:æwɪpːdɛɪpːwɪsɪdːpɛsn
:æsnɪʒːəpnɪʒːpɛnsːɪnɪus
:æpnɪusːəpɪsːɪwɪsːəpɪ
:æsnɪwːsɛɪppɪwːɪpɪwːsɛɪpɪw

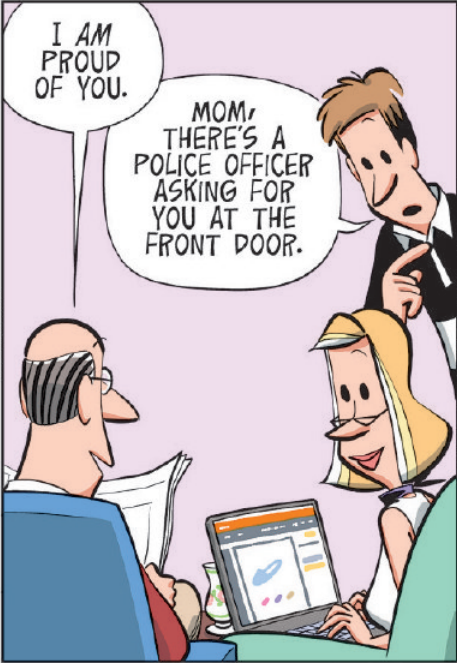
— Kathleen Saxe, distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS



Mt. Pleasant By Rick McKee and Kent Sligh

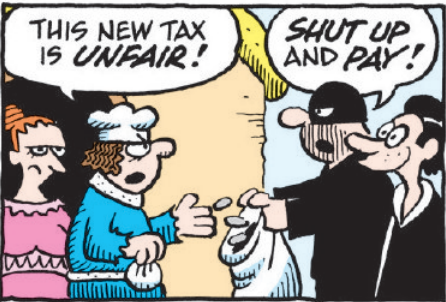
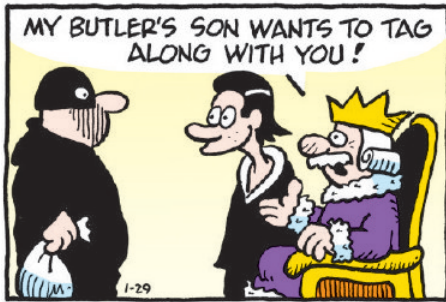
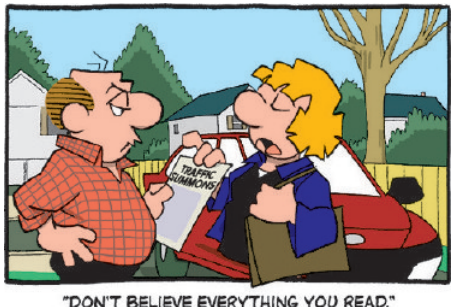
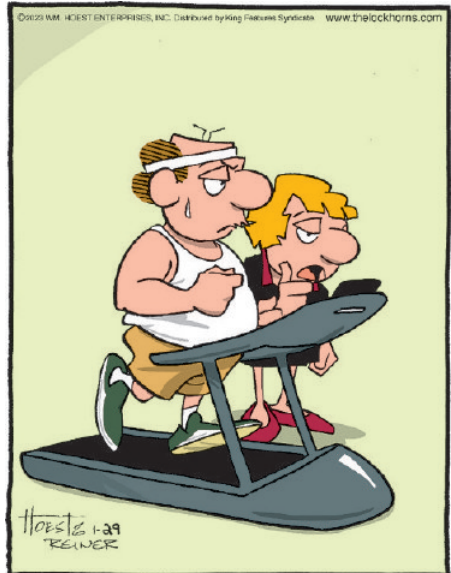
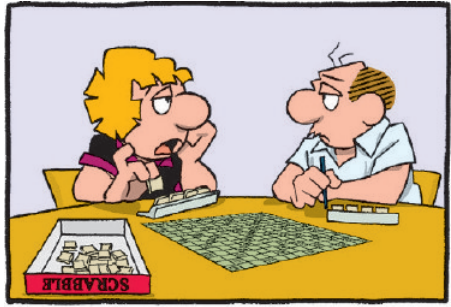


Dustin By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



The Lockhorns

By Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



SHERMAN'S LAGOON

by Jim Toomey

THERE THEY ARE, HERMAN... HAIRLESS BEACH APES.

THEY COME IN ALL SHAPES AND SIZES.

BIG ONES, SMALL ONES...

TALL ONES, SHORT ONES...

THEY ARRIVE IN THE MORNING AND STAY ALL DAY.

SOME LIE ON A TOWEL, SOME SIT IN A CHAIR.

SOME SMEAR THEMSELVES WITH SUNTAN LOTION, SOME DON'T.

THEY COME IN TWO FLAVORS - REGULAR AND COCONUT.

OOH! COCONUT!

Mutts By Patrick McDonnell

EARL, I'VE DECIDED TO TRY TO HIBERNATE ALL WINTER!

WHAT FUN!

I'M GOING TO SHLEEP ALL DAY AND ALL NIGHT-ONLY TO GET UP FOR MEALS, SHNACKS AND OCCASIONAL FLIGHTS OF FANCY!

BUT MOOCH

THAT'S WHAT YOU ALWAYS DO!!

IT DID SOUND FAMILIAR.

The Middletons By Ralph Dunagin and Dana Summers

GOOD MORN'N'... WHOA, NELLE! WHAT?

I WAS UP ALL NIGHT WITH A COLD.

MORRIS!

MIDGE, COULD YOU BRING ME ANOTHER PILLLOW?

AND THE REMOTE.

DICK TRACY

SHELLEY PLEGER
MIKE CURTIS
COLORS: SHANE FISHER

FIRST RESPONDERS ROLL OF HONOR

CHARLES MCCORMICK
WHILE A MEMBER OF THE WEST PECULIAR (MO) FIRE PREVENTION DISTRICT, FIREFIGHTER MCCORMICK FELL THROUGH A FLOOR INTO THE BASEMENT OF A BUILDING THAT WAS ON FIRE. HE DIED AT THE HOSPITAL OF CARDIAC ARREST AND SMOKE INHALATION. HE IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE AND THREE CHILDREN.
END OF WATCH: JANUARY 5, 2020.
LT. WALTER REIMER

Little Orphan Annie

WARBUCKS INTERNATIONAL

KNOCK KNOCK

COME IN.

SAHIB, YOU HAVE RECEIVED A PACKAGE FROM MR. SMITH. IT WAS MISPLACED IN THE MAIL ROOM.

THANK YOU, PUNJAB.

PUNJAB, WAIT!

YES, SAHIB?

GET ME DIET SMITH! THIS PARCEL IS FROM HIS AREA.

AT ONCE, SAHIB.

LOOKS LIKE I'LL BE IN NEED OF A DICK TRACY AGAIN.

Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau

AND I WILL KEEP FIGHTING FOR YOU, ARIZONA, UNTIL WE GET THE ELECTION RESULT GOD INTENDED!

OH, PLEASE...

YOU KNOW, I'M ACTUALLY GLAD THE MIDTERMS WEEDED OUT SO MANY ELECTION-DENIERS...

THE PARTY WASN'T BEING HELPED BY ALL THE CRAZIES!

CONGRESS CAN FOCUS NOW ON PROBLEMS THAT PEOPLE ACTUALLY CARE ABOUT...

...LIKE INFLATION, GAS PRICES, CRIME, IMMIGRATION - THE ISSUES THE GOP CAMPAIGNED ON!

AND WHAT WAS THE COLOR OF THE BIDEN LAPTOP, SIR?

IT WAS SILVER, CONGRESSMAN. REALLY FLASHY, LIKE WHAT A DRUG DEALER WOULD HAVE.

Prickly City By Scott Stantis

IT'S NATIONAL PUZZLE DAY, WINSLOW!

I'M PRETTY SURE I CRACKED THE CODE...



GO ALL IN

CHICAGOLAND'S
BEST CASINO
IS OPENING SOON

JUST 30 MIN NORTH OF O'HARE



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BY **AMERICAN
PLACE**

thetemporary.com

Must be 21 years of age or older. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, crisis counseling and referral services can be accessed by calling 1-800-GAMBLER (1-800-426-2537).

THE CARDS ARE STACKED IN YOUR FAVOR

Like bonuses, free play
and more? Join the club.

Enroll in our Legacy
Rewards program and earn
exclusive benefits
whenever you play.





THE Temporary
BY AMERICAN
PLACE

DIVE HEADFIRST INTO EXCITEMENT

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newest and best casino, is right here in your
own backyard. Today is your lucky day.

Must be 21 years of age or older. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, crisis counseling and referral services can be accessed by calling 1-800-GAMBLER (1-800-426-2537).



WE'D LIKE TO GIVE YOU A HAND

Cards. Dice. Slots. And much, much more.
No matter what kind of action you crave,
you'll find it here. Let the games begin!



SLOTS

Hundreds of slots. For excitement that's right on
the button.



TABLE GAMES

Dozens of table games. A fun time is definitely
in the cards.



SPORTSBOOK

Our Circa Sportsbook is coming soon. We bet
you're going to love it.

AT THESE TABLES IT'S WIN-WIN

Three delectable restaurants. Vibrant bar,
coffee and snack areas. As you'll happily see,
no casino offers better spreads.



OPENING SOON



OPENING SOON



BEER
AIRSTREAM

COFFEE
AIRSTREAM





IT'S GAME ON

CHICAGOLAND'S
BEST CASINO
IS OPENING SOON

—
JUST 30 MIN NORTH OF O'HARE

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